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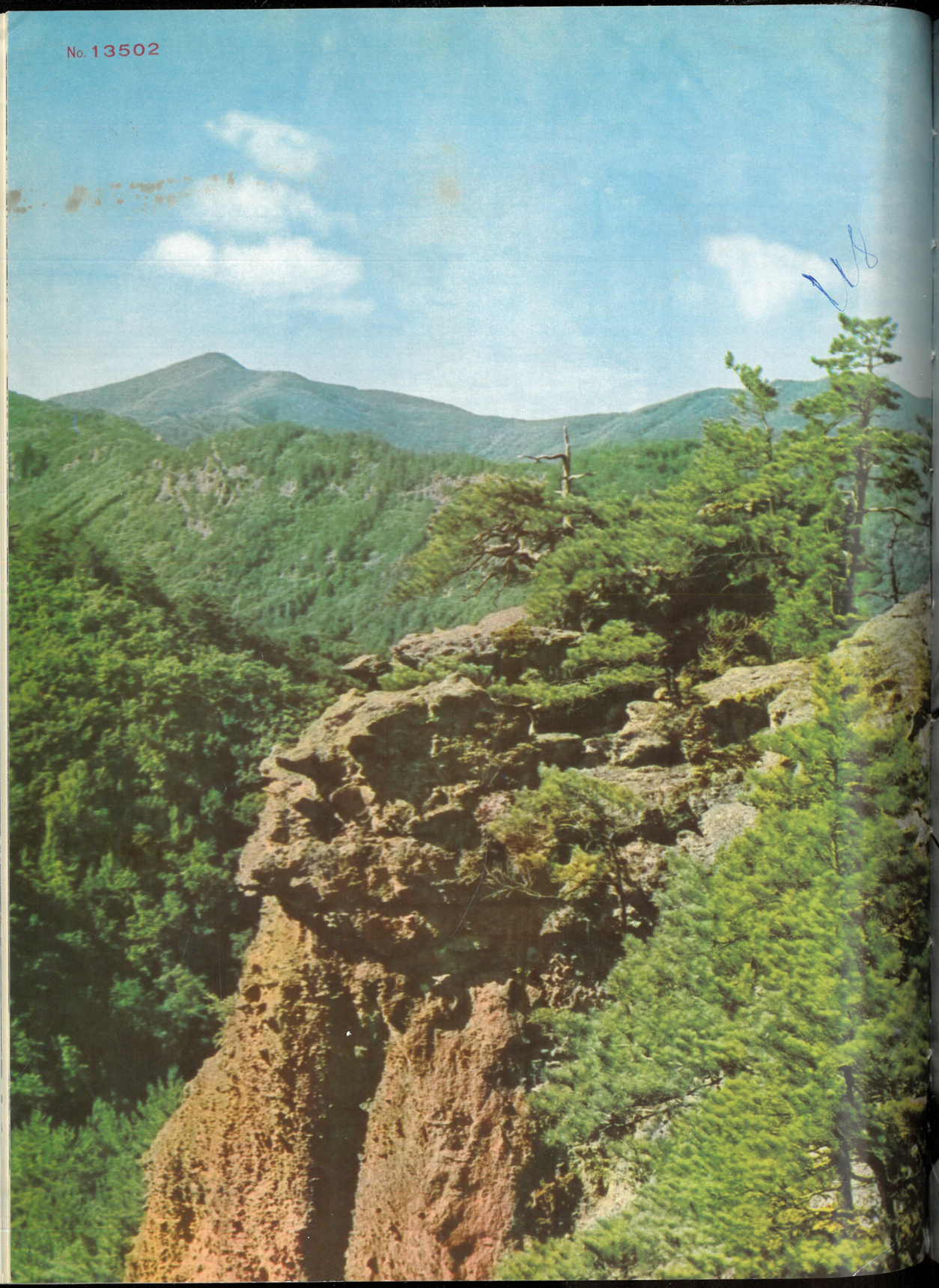

Korea Today

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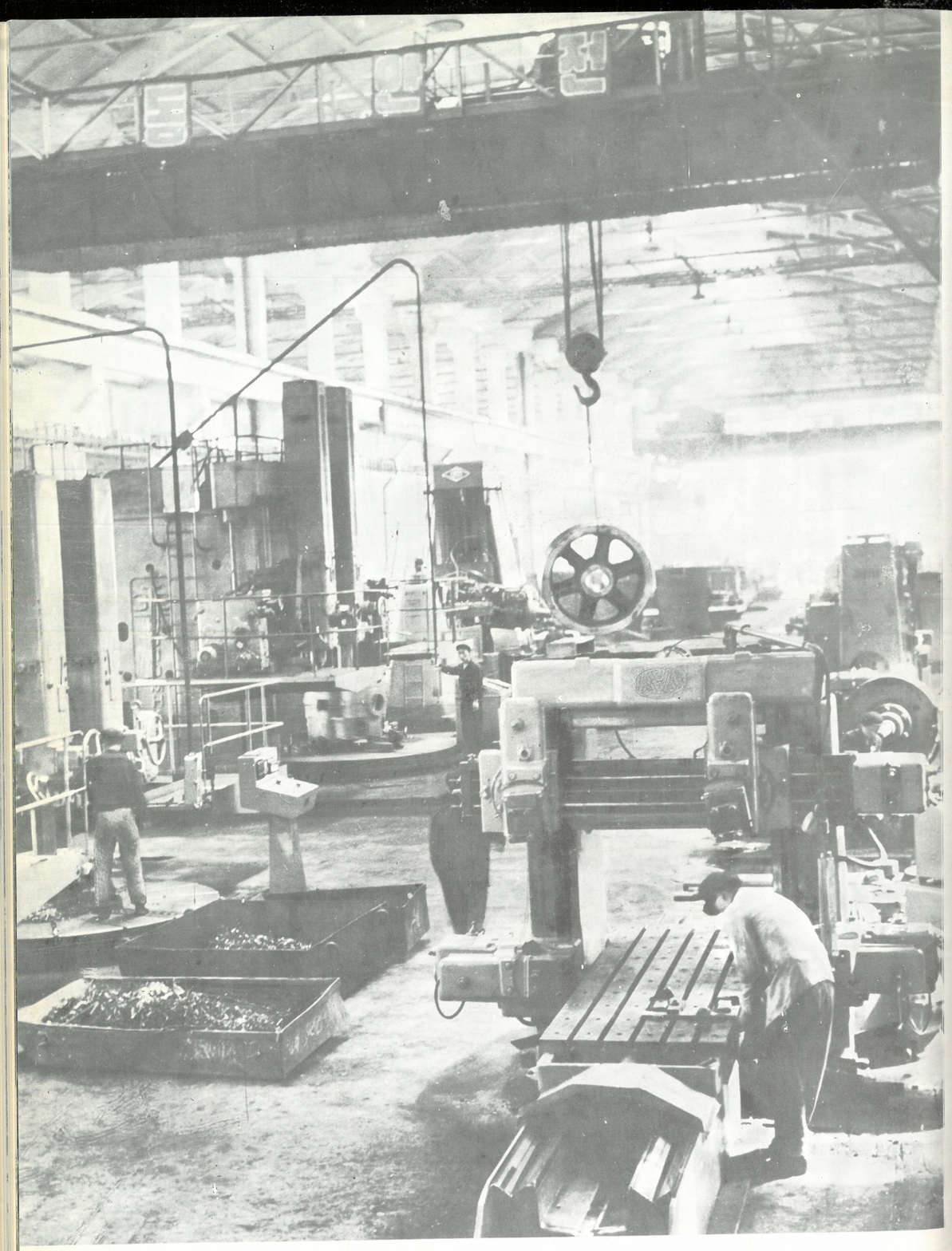

Part of the heavy machine shop of the Ryongsung Machine Factory in Hamheung, an industrial city

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FRONT COVER: Rim Kyung Ha, skipper of trawler No. 214 of the Junjin Fishery on the east coast of our country, has spent most of his life on the sea. Until the country's liberation, he led a bitter life, exploited and humiliated by the ship-owner. It was only after the liberation that he began to catch fish freely. A veteran fisherman, he overfulfilled his assignments every year. He also studied hard to introduce advanced fishing techniques to his work. He has trained a number of young people into good fishermen, too. In 1962 the state awarded him the title of Merited Fisherman in recognition of his great services in developing the country's fishing industry. Photo was taken when his boat docked. A joy of a good catch is all over his face

Photo by Choi Chul

BACK COVER: The main street of Pyongyang clothed in fresh verdure

Photo by Suk Ha

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CONTENTS

The Most Precious Thing . . . . . KIM YUNG IL 2
A Faithful Servent to the People 4
The Popular Budget 7
With Land . . . . . LI CHAN SOON 8
Artificial Fibre Centre in the North 10
"Artificial" Island 12
A Rifle 12
State Guidance of the Rural Economy 14
Trip to the Land of Clear Morning . . JEAN KANAPA 16
An Unforgettable City—Bamako . . LI KWANG JO 19
Railway Line Cut Off . . . . . JOO NAM RYONG 20
OKI . . . . . CHUN SE BONG 21
"A Story of a Unit Commander" . . . . . BAK HAK 29
How I Acted the Part of Hye Yung . . . OO IN HEUI 30
Domestic Account-book . . . . . KIM PYUNG NAM 30
Imperialists' Plots Being Shattered . . . . . GEORGE G. VULATA 32
Greetings to the Yemeni People JOO WANG CHUL 33
The Way to Korea's Unification . . . . PAK IL RO 34
A Bird Flies Across the Demarcation Line 36
The Miserable End of the Aggressor 38
"Walker Hill" 41
Korean Music Mutilated 41
The Imjin Patriotic War 42
The Narcotic Centre . . . . . KIM SANG KUL 44
Dangerous Advance . . . . . KIM YUNG KI 46
Mt. Myohyang 49
Two Worlds 50
Korean Weightlifters at GANEFO Tournament 51
From Our Readers 52
Stamps of Korea 52

THE MOST PRECIOUS THING

KIM YUNG IL

THIS year we mark the 18th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. And I recall an event that took place in my home village.

One day in August, 1945. It was a few days after liberation.

There were voices outside: "Serve them right!" Soon I was in the street. A file of Japanese war prisoners in shabby uniform was passing by. Arrogance and haughtiness were gone! They looked dispirited and fear-stricken. And how good we felt in seeing the doom of the invaders.

An old woman, a neighbour of ours, who was there said loudly: "Now we are free again!"

That night with several young people I heard a story from the grandma. Young as I was, I was so impressed by her talk. I still remember what she said that night.

One day in 1910—then the grandma was a little girl—a unit of the Volunteers that had come to the village left for somewhere. (Volunteers—an army of patriots at the turn of the century that fought the foreign invaders and the traitorous ruling circles. —*Tr.*) It was not long before there were shots in the village —the Japanese came. But they could not find any trace of the Volunteers. In the end the Japanese soldiers caught a village boy named Il Nam and made him stand on a pile of stones by the corn field. The boy was in a mourning dress. He was on his way home from his grandfather's funeral. But the blood-thirsty Japanese charged this innocent 17-year-old boy with being a member of the Volunteers and shot him. Learning of their son's death, the parents hurried to the scene with other villagers. They most indignantly denounced the murderers. However, no help was coming to them. The Koreans were a ruined people then. Outrages and atrocities of the occupationists became only worse.

The Japanese governor-general of Korea even declared: "There is only one alternative for the Koreans. Either they observe the Japanese law, or die!"

The grandma told us many other cases of atrocities and massacres the Japanese had committed. The Japanese soldiers and policemen shot and killed mercilessly the peasants when they rose up in a revolt demanding a better life. Many lost their lands when the Japanese surveyors decided to plant a few markers in their plots. A policeman who came for census kicked an old villager, because the latter did not speak the Japanese language.

I remember these were her concluding words: "No people are more miserable than a ruined people."

All the Koreans were made to go through such a bitter life.

Indeed, her simple but meaningful words moved me so deeply. Those were words of one who had suffered at the hands of the foreign invaders; those were words given to the young generation encouraging them to fight not to fall into such a plight.

As I grew up, I gradually began to understand what the country means for one. How much blood our ancestors and revolutionary forerunners have shed for the country. Despite the seemingly unsurmountable odds, the best sons and daughters of Korea waged the armed struggle for the country's liberation for 15 years under the dark rule of the Japanese colonialists.

An anti-Japanese fighter Pak Kil Song wrote in jail: "My dear motherland, be eternal! I may die in North Manchuria far from your warm embrace, but my heart will be always with you. Even at this last moment my mind is running to the motherland."

Indeed, ardent was the love of the Korean revolutionaries for the motherland.

After the country's liberation the people set up the people's committees in every part of the country—the people's power organs that they built after the experience of the people's revolutionary government that had been established in the revolutionary bases in the days of the anti-Japanese, national-liberation struggle.

The North Korean People's Committee laid the foundation for the happiness that the people enjoy today. And the people started to build a worthwhile life.

It was 18 years ago, on September 9, 1948, that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was proclaimed. How eagerly the people had longed for it! Since then, September 9 has been made a national holiday of the land.

The creative efforts and revolutionary optimism of the people flourished thanks to freedom, rights and other favourable conditions that their government gave them. And their talents and resourcefulness began to work to the full.

The bitter experiences of the past and the worthwhile life after the country's liberation made the people realize once again that the most precious is the country of their own. That is why they could display the peerless mass heroism in the war the American aggressors launched in an attempt to stifle our 22-month-old Republic in June, 1950. And the Korean people defeated the U.S. army, the self-styled "strongest", in the end.

Li Soo Bok who blocked the muzzle of an enemy's machinegun to open a way for his unit, wrote in his note-book prior to the last charge on Height 1211: "I am a youth of liberated Korea. My life is precious to me. A bright future is priceless, too. But my life, my hope, and my happiness are less valuable than the fate of the country. Nothing is loftier than giving my life—my only life and youth—to my country, to my only country!"

Such were the sentiments of every Korean who was resolved to annihilate the U.S. aggressors and defend their country.

This took place when the war was at its height.

One day a group of Yankee soldiers fleeing southward were caught by our men.

An enemy officer asked a 19-year-old Korean soldier, one of our men who were taking the war prisoners to the rear:

"How much do you get paid for your bravery?" The answer of our boy was firm and to the point. "We only know we have to defend the country!" The young soldier devoted all—his hope and future—for the cause of the country. Need it to stress the contrast between the beliefs of this Korean youth and the ideas of the dollar-minded Yankee soldier boy?

The unity of the Korean people, the masters of the country, has grown firmer. And the people kept advancing vigorously toward a better life.

The three-year war worked havoc with the whole country. The American war maniacs were quite sure even when they had to kneel before the Korean people—they were quite sure that Korea so thoroughly devastated would not be able to rise up again for ever.

But the Korean people who defended honourably their country have built an independent national economy with developing industry and agriculture along the line set forth by their government.

It is no exaggeration to say that Korea's industrial construction made a new start after the war (July, 1953), because the war damage was so serious.

But numbers of plants and mills, large and small, have sprung up to turn out machines and goods the country needs.

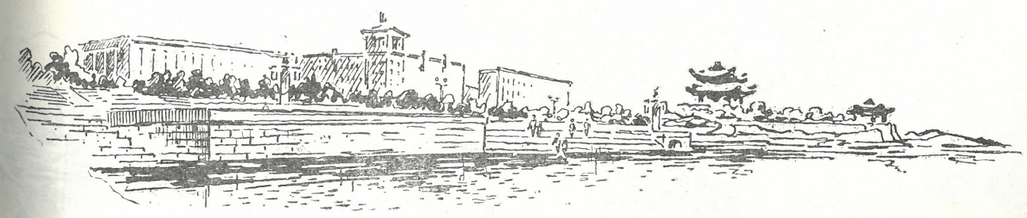
The co-operativized countryside produces grains 2 times more than in the pre-liberation days. No more is to be seen the century-old backwardness, but it is a modern agriculture.

Taxation has a long history. There was a Western bourgeois scholar who said that the human being is "an animal which pays tax!" But our farmers pay no taxes any more.

Our popular government has taken such historic measures. Tuition was abolished long ago. So children and young people are able to develop their talents fully free from all cares. The system of free medical treatment has been instituted long ago. The average life span has lengthened by 20 years compared with that in the pre-liberation days. Then our people do not worry about food, clothing, and housing. Science and national culture and arts flourish.

The flag of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the symbol of hope for the South Korean people who are groaning under colonial rule of the Yankee aggressors. It is the banner of anti-U.S. struggle for them.

Today the entire people of Korea are working devotedly to strengthen their own power to put an end to the territorial division and to prompt prosperity of the country and to advance further their economy and culture.



A Faithful Servant to the People

ALREADY four years have passed since Kim Sung Do was elected to be the chairman of the Samjun-ri People's Committee in Hwangjoo County, North Hwanghai Province, and to head the managerial committee of the Samjun Co-operative Farm. (In our country *ri* is the lowest administrative unit, and at the same time, it is a production unit. And the chairman of the *ri* people's committee is concurrently the managerial chairman of the co-operative farm.) Kim Sung Do is doing an excellent job as the chairman to serve the 805 families in *ri*. The people in Samjun-ri call him "the housekeeper of our *ri*". "The housekeeper of our *ri*"—these words express the deep trust and respect the people have for Kim Sung Do and for the *ri* people's committee.

A WALL-NEWSPAPER

One day towards dusk a group of farm members on their way home crowded before a bulletin board.

On the board were some figures showing how the co-op farm was doing and how the peasants' life was. There were also some charts illustrating the prospects of the co-op farm.

"... Compared with 1960, in 1965 the average share for each household was 1.3 times in grain, 1.6 times in cash, and 3 times in incomes from sidelines..."

"Gee, by 1968 we will get more than 500 kg of fruit on the average!" Pak Ro Kye, who received 5.3 tons of grain last year, said. "That's right. It is already four years since we reclaimed the hills and planted fruit trees. I'm sure they will give us fruits by 1968." Speaking like this, the peasants resumed their way. They pictured the future of the co-op farm where grains and fruits will be more plentiful. An elderly man said: "A great change. Who could think that all the hills around the village would become orchards? But, think! We will have fruits in a few years."

Until 1962 when Kim Sung Do became the chairman of the *ri* people's committee, there were only 14 hectares of orchard, and all the fruit-trees were rather old. So the total fruit yield was only 27 tons. But Kim Sung Do in response to the government's policy for turning hills into orchards began to draw up plans with the help of the peasants and cadres of the village. To this end, he had already investigated all the hills—the gradient, the soil, wind directions, etc. He had also worked out concrete plans about the number of work-hands they would need and the variety of fruit-trees they would plant. So, when he presented his plans to the people's committee, everyone readily supported him.

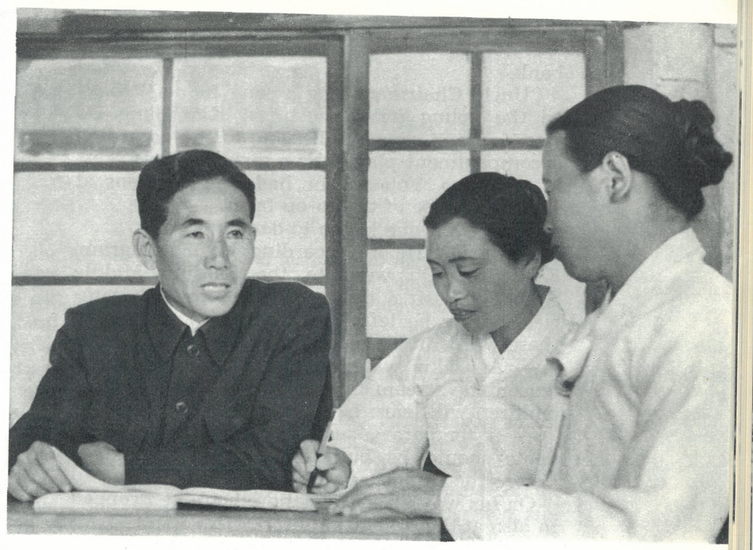
Within two years after that, 35 hectares of land was reclaimed and fruit-trees of different sorts, such as, apple, pear, peach, apricot, plum, etc., were planted. And there will be fruits before long.

"I guess everything depends on us," said a peasant.

Then they recalled the time of building the co-op farm animal pens. When they finished the work of expanding orchards, they started to put spurs to animal husbandry of the co-op farm. Measures were taken to set up more stalls, and increase the meat output. And the chairman was with members of the live-stock team, helping them with their work. Particularly, Kim Sung Do emphasized the prevention of animal epidemics. Then he brought young pigs to the co-op farm members—there were many young ones thanks to the growing co-op farm animal husbandry.

Within one year, every family came to raise animals and sold them to the procurement office. This served to increase the income of the farmers.

"Now, if it is about Uncle Chairman I should like to say a thing or two, too." A young fellow started talking. He is an orphan. His parents were killed by the Yankees during the Korean war. He was brought up under the good care of the co-op farm and got married last year. A few days after they started housekeeping, a clerk of the village store brought to his home a pile of furniture and kitchen utensils—a set of cupboard, chests, tableware, everything—



Chairman Kim Sung Do discussing with the deputies of the ri people's assembly about their work

even a kitchen-knife and a chopping-board! In the evening when he came home, he was at a loss. He had been thinking that he would need these things and buy them... So when he learned that they were sent by Chairman Kim Sung Do, the young peasant was greatly moved: "Even my own parents could not been better than he!"

DAILY PROGRAM

One day when the rice-planting was at its height, Jung Yoon Kil, the 9th work-team leader, went out earlier than usual.

But he saw through a morning fog a dim figure moving about in the fields. "Who is there?" shouted the team-leader. "Good morning, Comrade team-leader!" was the reply. It was none other than Chairman Kim Sung Do. The chairman went out into the paddy-fields and started work earlier than the others. That day the transplanting went ahead at a greater speed than usual. An Wan Kyung, Li Myung Ja and some other young peasants are very good at transplanting the young rice shoots. But even they have a hard time when they compete with the chairman. It was only natural, for Kim Sung Do is a veteran farm-hand who has grown up with the soil.

In his childhood—then the country was still under Japanese rule—he started to work on the farm. With the country's liberation, he could exhibit all his enthusiasm and work devotedly—he knew he was master of the land. And he studied very hard, too.

Now, it was a break. All the farmers went

out to take a rest under the big tree on the bank.

"Uncle Chairman, sing a song for us," coaxed the young fellows. At last Kim Sung Do stood up and sang a folk song to the accordion accompaniment played by a girl. He sings pretty well, too. You see, he had a few lessons at the club-house of the co-op farm.

Soon, everyone began to dance.

In the afternoon, according to his program, Kim Sung Do went to the Samjun Middle School to visit a class and see some laboratories. Before he left the school, he jotted down these words in his memo-book:

— A 0.5 kw water-turbine should be installed on the stream for the school lab. Then the children will learn better about electricity;

— A temporary summer camp for 200 students should be built on the Daidong River before the summer vacation.

On his way back from the school, he dropped in also at the village clinic.

"I've been told that Jung Yun Kil of the third team has been ill for three days. How is he now?" He asked the chief of the clinic.

"This morning I visited him. He has a cold but is coming along all right."

"Good! Well, how are those who are on the maternity leave?"

"Everyone is excellent. And this morning Kim Jung Shin of the third work-team gave a birth to a son. They are doing fine."

"What do you know! I'm so glad to hear that. Take good care of them."

Leaving the clinic he murmured: "Another member has been added to the family of our co-op farm." His heart felt so joyous.

IN THE EVENING

The night was far advanced.

Melodies of the organ, violins, and guitars have stopped. And the girls' singing too died out.

All the school-age children of the village are in the Samjun Middle School

They take precautionary measure against the livestock sickness

The night is still.

Kim Sung Do was absorbed in a thick book. Every night he does his bit of studies—this is in his daily program. Now he is preparing for the qualification examination for agro-technicians. He has only two more subjects to go. All others he passed.

In the past two years since he was made the chairman of the *ri* people's committee, he has felt keenly that he should know more about agricultural science.

Before liberation the peasants in Samjun-ri had toiled day in and day out. They did not have even enough cattle or ploughs. But now agricultural co-operation has been completed and several tractors and lorries are working for the co-op farm. Then advanced farming methods have been introduced.

Under such conditions, he thinks that he can never make the co-op farm advance further unless he knows more about scientific farming.

Needless to say, it is not an easy job for him to keep up with his studies while he has to deal with a hundred and one things for the village. But whenever he recalls his bitter past—the time when he was ignorant and subjected to exploitation and maltreatment—new energies surge in him.

After the studies he took out his note-book from a drawer and carefully summed up his day: What problems have I solved and what are the new ones? What mistakes did I make in my work with the people? What must I do more for the greater interests of the people?

Then, with boundless satisfaction he went to bed thinking of tomorrow, another day for betterment and advance.

The Popular Budget

THE state budget of any country is the financial foundation for running the country.

The annual budget in our country, where the people are the master, is drawn up solely for serving socialist construction and the improvement of the people's living.

The ever growing national economy represents the firm source of increasing the state revenue. In other words, in our country the tax money paid by the population keeps shrinking, while the incomes from the socialist sector are constantly growing. Out of the total state revenue, the socialist sector held 75.5 per cent in 1949, 74.7 per cent in 1956, and 98 per cent in 1966; on the other hand, the portion of tax kept shrinking—it was 24.1 per cent in 1949, 8.8 per cent in 1956, and 2 per cent in 1966.

Even such meagre taxes will be abolished completely in the near future.

The Fifth Session of the Third Supreme People's Assembly of D.P.R.K. held in this April adopted a decision on abolishing all agricultural tax-in-kind by the end of this year. This speaks that the financial foundation of the country is firmer than ever thanks to the rapidly growing economy and accumulation.

With the promotion of the technical revolution and consolidation of the independent national economy, the scope of the state budget is being expanded and its foundation reinforced.

Great part of the budget is appropriated for the growth of the national economy and improvement of the people's life. This year earmarks 68.1 per cent of the total state expenditures for the development of the national economy. The figure is 31 times over 1949 and 3.2 times over 1956. These funds will be spent for strengthening the material and technical foundations of heavy and light industries, and for aiding agriculture. In the field of heavy industry investments will go to the electric and chemical branches that have direct bearing on the people's life. As regards agriculture, more funds will go to it so as to carry out the tasks set forth in the "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country."

With the increasing investments in the rural economy, this year will see big strides in the technical and cultural revolutions in the countryside.

The Government will build more irrigation projects, big and small, and send more tractors, lorries and other machines, as well as fertilizers to the countryside. It will also finance the construction of 240,000 square metres of various establishments—threshing grounds, stalls, warehouses, drying-places, etc. Then the co-operative farms will be supplied with many farm implements —seeders, threshers, crushers, weeders—free of charge. The Government will also build 50,000 farm houses and cultural and welfare establishments in the rural areas.

This year the state has adopted a series of measures with a view to increasing the real incomes of the working people. For one thing, 24.1 per cent of the total state expenditures is earmarked for social and cultural fields. This is 18 times over the 1949 figure, and 5.1 times over 1956.

The country has already earmarked an enormous fund for social and cultural measures—education, science, culture, public health, sports, and social insurance and security. The universal compulsory middle school education was enforced in 1958, and the material and technical foundations have been consolidated in all schools. Now a quarter of the population are studying in schools at all levels free of charge. Particularly students of specialized schools and institutes of higher learning receive monthly stipends from the Government. Throughout the country, in cities and in villages, there are hospitals and clinics, and the people are entitled to free medical treatment.

Every year a large number of the working people spend their vacations at over 400 holiday homes and sanatoriums at the expense of the state. Then day nurseries and kindergartens are everywhere to make mothers work freely.

In addition to such social and cultural amenities, the working people are provided with grain and clothes at a very low price, almost second to nothing. Most of the working people live in the state-built flats, for which they pay only 0.6 per cent of their living expenses.

All this adds up to this. Everyone is receiving additional benefits from the state, almost 50 per cent of their incomes.

That the state spends more money for the welfare of the people indicates that our budget is a popular one.

While the state expenditure for the national economy and social and cultural measures keeps growing every year, funds earmarked for administrative purposes are shrinking. Out of the total expenditure, 19.2 per cent was spent for this purpose in 1949, but the figure went down to 6.1 per cent in 1956, then to 2.5 per cent in 1966. And such results are attributable to the efforts of the working people, who upholding the Government's policy for economy and reduction in expenditure for non-productive fields, have economized materials, labour, and funds.

As seen above, the state budget of our country is a vehicle for consolidating the economic foundation of the state and improving constantly the people's life.

With Land

LI CHAN SOON

KIM SUN SUP, a veteran farmer of the Sungnam Co-op Farm in South Pyungan Province, went out into the field with other farmers.

Unfolded before his eyes was a vast tract of the field where golden waves of crops were rolling in the autumn breeze. A bumper harvest! A happy smile was lit up all over his face, and he said convincingly to the young folk: "We're sure to reap 50 more kg than last year on every **panbo**."

The Yuldoosamchun-ri Plain where rice-stalks are bent under heavy-laden ears stretched as far as the eye could see.

Kim Sun Sup said to himself. This is where he has lived for sixty years! What a great joy the plain has given to the peasants here! Stepping along the foot-path between the fertile paddy-fields, he looked back on the things that happened in days gone-by. Over the past 20 years since the plain returned to the peasants, an unprecedentedly big change has taken place in the life of the peasants here.

It is long since the dark shadow of poverty which hung over Kim Sun Sup's family generation after generation was dispelled. And Kim Sun Sup, once illiterate, is now studying agro-technical books.

He is often asked by people: "How many springs and autumns have you seen?" In our country, when people ask the age of the elders, they would say: "How many springs and autumns have you seen?" This salutation owes its origin to the following fact: In our country, agriculture has been regarded as the foundation of society from olden times. They sowed in spring and harvested in autumn. These seasons—spring and autumn—came every year. And, as these two seasons rolled on, hardships and sorrows visited our peasants. Eventually the words "spring and autumn" came to mean one year.

In spring everything comes to life again. It is a season which brings hopes to the people.

In by-gone days, however, spring was a season of tears and heartaches for our peasants. Exploitation and oppression by the Japanese imperialists and landlords—this was all that our peasants knew in those days. Once a Korean poet lamented over the miserable situation of our peasants: "Would the spring come to the peasants whose lands are taken away?"

Peasant Sun Sup was born into a poor peasant's family. His family had been engaged in farming for generations, but there was not even a small plot under his name.

His father built a thatched hut on the mountain slope. But he had to work for the landlord for 30 days every year as a sort of rent for the house lot.

There was no end to what they went through then. So much so, even today he cannot forget the joy he felt when he received land. It was in the spring of 1946, twenty years ago, that he was given land without compensation under the land reform.

In April this year when he greeted the 20th spring after that, there was another emotion-charged event.

The Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea adopted the law on complete abolition of the system of agricultural tax-in-kind from this year. At the news he could not control his excitement. That evening all his workteam sat together and spoke of their happy life in the light of the old days.

"It has been said tax-in-kind will go. Now it is really gone. Everything what we harvest will be ours."

The co-op farmers were glad beyond description.

Kim Sun Sup chose to speak about what had taken place when he was 28 years old.

That year, there was unusually a long spell of drought. But spring was spring. He literally scratched the parched land and planted seeds. They looked up at the sky for rain.

The family took good care of few shoots that came out. They worked in the scorching sun the whole summer. But when autumn came around, there was hardly any harvest! That year the family reaped only 1.5 tons of crops on 2 **jungbo** of land. If the family had been left with two-thirds of it, it would have been enough for them. But more than half of the harvests were taken away by the landlord as rent. Then there were a host of miscellaneous levies. Now the family of three was given just enough grain for one person.

How different things are for our peasants today! The Government has taken the measure for completely abolishing the agricultural tax-in-kind. (The rate has been 8.4 per cent of the harvests.) Now Kim Sun Sup feels even wrinkles on his forehead speaking of what hardships he had gone through are disappearing!

This spring he took care of the cold-bed rice-seedlings. He almost lived with the seedlings, taking the temperature, checking humidity and ventilation, etc.

And he knows he has to go by the weather forecast and the weather station built in the farm in growing rice seedlings. This does not mean that he does things by the weather. What he wanted was to breed healthy seedlings that could grow in all weather conditions. To do that, he had to regulate the humidity, temperature, and he succeeded in raising good seedlings. Look, how healthily those seedlings are doing in the fields.

Of course, all this did not come by itself. In the past he also believed that farming was at the mercy of Nature, because for centuries the farmers of the country had toiled on the tiny plots in the same old way year in and year out.

After the liberation, the peasants—masters of land—could buy at low prices farm implements and fertilizers turned out by the state-run factories; then they began to use advanced farming methods propagated by the people's power organs. Then some irrigation projects were set up by the Government. Yet, it was not enough to check natural calamities; almost every year drought came in spring, a long spell of rain in summer. Moreover, the fact that the farmers worked individually made it difficult to introduce advanced farming methods and carry out nature-remaking projects. In addition, the three-year war caused an acute shortage of everything, farm-hands and draught animals.

Under the circumstances, the farmers had to pool their strength and energies together. Already during the war time they had formed mutual-aid teams and ox-sharing teams; they knew what benefits they had from them. And when the Government set forth the policy of agricultural co-operation, the peasants welcomed it wholeheartedly. In Autumn, 1954 an agricultural co-operative was formed in Kim Sun Sup's village, too.

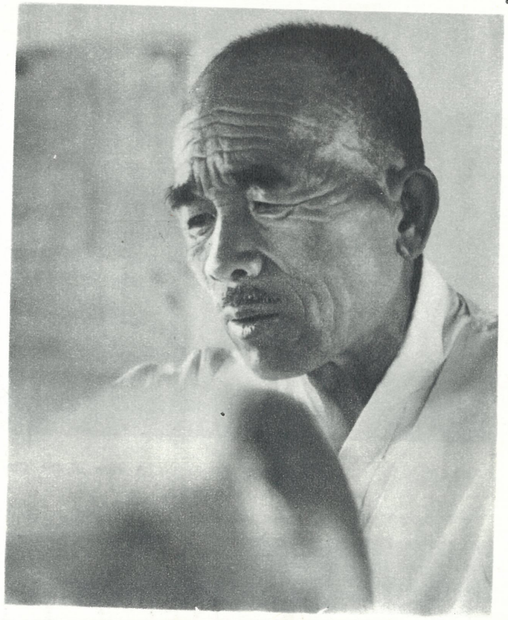
In its early days the co-operative was weak financially and materially. Two head of draught animals and a few of obsolete farm implements were all it had.

Han Ryong Jun, like Kim Sun Sup, was a farmer who got the land gratis from the state after the liberation. And how his life improved! But Han Ryong Jun turned his back to the co-operative, saying it would do little good to him.

However, Kim Sun Sup firmly believed in the future of the co-operative: "Yes. When everything is young, it does not look much. But it will surely take roots, branch out, and bear fine fruits." This firm belief made him put heart and soul in the development of the agricultural co-operative. The state helped it in every way; it sent farm implements and furnished funds.

And the bank gave loans to them, and the money made them secure necessary farm-tools. The shortage of farm-hands was overcome by the pooled strength of the entire co-op membership. The first year already testified to the superiority of collective work. It brought a far greater harvest than any other years. Having witnessed himself the success of the co-operative, farmer Han proposed to join the co-operative. As years went by, more and more farmers came in. The co-operative made rapid progress under the active support and correct guidance of the state. In this way, in 1958, it grew into a big co-op farm comprising all the peasants of the village.

The state invested an enormous fund to build a giant project on the Yuldoosamchun-ri plain. The project was to water the vast plain. The co-op farm members came out for the project. They, together with the workers, cut canals and built reservoirs. Thanks to their concerted efforts, the project was completed



Peasant Kim Sun Sup

successfully.

Now, drought is an old story on the plain. Irrigation canals run in all directions carrying the water of the Chungchun River to every plot. Some jumped for joy, some were moved to tears at the grand scene.

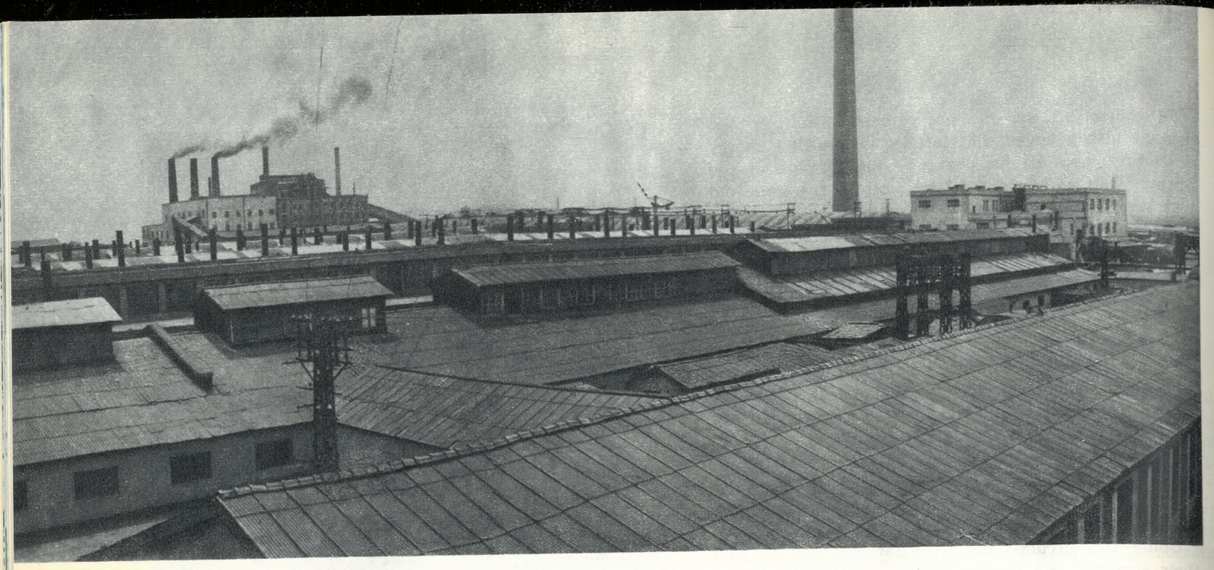
Farmer Kim Sun Sup said to himself: "Nothing is impossible, if everybody works together".

Today, the co-op farm is amply equipped with various farm implements, such as, thrashers, fodder-crushers, etc. Then the state has sent lorries and other farm-machines. And the state built for it thrashing grounds and animal stalls at government expense. This is not all. Six tractors from the farm-machine station are working in the fields. Machines not only relieved the farmers from toilsome work, but bring more grain to them. Last year the farm gathered in 4.9 tons of grain on the average from every **jungbo.** Each family was given as much grain to last them three years.

On the distribution day Kim Sun Sup danced for joy with younger ones. He received a plenty of grain and a considerable sum of cash. Why shouldn't he?

Before the liberation, it was unthinkable for him to send his children to the university. But thanks to the state solicitude his two sons finished the college. The eldest son, an agricultural college graduate, is an engineer at the province agricultural committee. He is putting all his energy in working out the blueprint to turn the Yuldoosamchun-ri plain, where his father and grandfathers toiled and moiled, into a yet richer land.

Many a young farmer, too, is following the example of Uncle Sun Sup, working hard with might and main for the growth and prosperity of their village and the farm. And the farm's future will be brighter.



A view of the Chungjin Chemical Fibre Factory

Artificial Fibre Centre in the North

THERE is a chemical fibre plant in Chungjin, an industrial city in the north. The plant with a yearly capacity of 30,000 tons of rayon yarn and staple fibre, takes an important position in production of chemical fibre in our country.

It was the Japanese imperialists who built the plant years ago to plunder the abundant timber resources of Korea. At that time, the plant produced only 2,000 tons of rayon or so a year.

However, after the country's liberation the plant began to take a road of new development according to the state policy of concentrating its efforts on solving the question of clothing —a very important question in the over-all improvement of the people's life. The state has directed great attention to the question of securing artificial fibres as the country has only a limited area of arable land and the climate is not suitable for cotton cultivation.

When the Japanese took to flight, they maliciously destroyed the plant. And they were sure that the Koreans would never be able to run the factory by themselves. But, already in 1948, its output surpassed by far that of the Japanese time.

However, the plant was devastated utterly in the three-year Korean war launched by Washington (June, 1950-July, 1953).

The post-war rehabilitation of the plant was carried out under difficult conditions. During the war the U.S. played havoc with the nation; not only this plant but all other production facilities were reduced to ashes.

Such being the situation, the plant could not get what it needed for its reconstruction, nor could it expand into a large one at a stroke.

Therefore, it was decided to restore the rayon yarn production facilities first and add a small staple fibre shop. Everything—idle equipment and existing facilities—was salvaged and utilized to the utmost. And the difficult job of rehabilitation went on for over three years. At last the plant was put into operation in 1957.

From then on, the production of the plant kept increasing rapidly: between 1957 and 1960 the output of staple fibre and rayon yarn increased ten times. During the same period the whole country fulfilled the first Five-Year Plan for the Development of the National Economy, and the output of fabrics grew 2.5 times.

As the economic power of the country grew and the people's living standard improved, demands for fabrics became greater. Taking account of such conditions, the government laid down the task of improving the quality and increasing the output to make the people's life more bountiful during the current seven-year plan period (1961-1967). Now there has to be more fibre to feed the textile industry.

To this end, the state invested a large fund to raise the annual capacity of the Chungjin Chemical Fibre Plant to 30,000 tons.

This project was not an easy one as it meant re-equipping the plant: The capacity was to be doubled by utilizing the existing equipment and buildings to the utmost and erecting some new shops.

All the factories and mills in the country came out to help the plant in the expansion project: Compressors, refrigeration facilities, large-size tanks, reaction towers, spinning-machines, and many other equipment and machines needed were made and sent to the mill from the Bookjoong, Ryongsung, and Hamheung machine-building factories and others. And many technicians and skilled workers from all parts of the country came to the mill to help with the work.

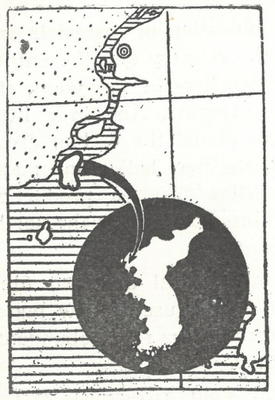
With the full mobilization of materials and technical forces of the country and the enthusiastic work of the workers of the plant, the project made rapid progress. And in a little over a year they completed the carbon disulphide mill, installed the new boiler and many equipment and facilities. Thus a production centre for artificial fibre was built at the north-eastern tip of the country.

In the same period several chemical fibre factories were built, which use as raw materials lime stone, anthracite, or reeds abundantly found in the country.

Now, chemical fibre holds two-thirds of the country's total output of fibres.

The automated reeling shop

Pulp is turned into staple fibre and carried into the drying shop



"ARTIFICIAL" ISLAND

REEDS are being cultivated extensively on the west coast of our country.

Until some years ago much of the west coast was marsh lands where reeds sprawled. And the reed was at best used for making some handicraft works.

But today the reed is made to give out fibre, and the country needs more reed.

It was in 1956 that our scientists began to study on securing fibre from the reed. In two years they succeeded in yielding rayon and pulp from the reed. It has been proved that one kilogramme of reed will give out one metre of fabrics, and one hectare of reed field will produce 4-7 times more fabrics than one hectare of cotton field. The reed fibre can stand comparison with cotton in its durability and softness.

A chemical fibre factory has been built in Shineuijoo, it has an annual capacity of 20,000 tons. At the same time reed fields were built on an extensive scale not far from Shineuijoo. To this end, seven islands centered around Shindo Island in the mouth of the Amrok River were made into a chain of breakwater. As a result some 5,500 hectares of land were created, where reeds will be cultivated.

There was an uninhabited island—Moomyungpyung—overgrown with reeds; its reed fields reached some 2,000 hectares. The island submerged when the tides were in.

It was in autumn 1958 that seventeen workers started the work. It was not an easy job to build the large embankment.

Then thousands more came to do the work. The sandy soil made the work more difficult. On the island there is a 100-150 metres wide stream which flew and ebbed with a tremendous force with the tidal water.

Fighting against the elements, the builders laid tracks for pushcars and installed cables. Bookjoong, Kiyang, and other machine-building factories of the country sent numbers of machines and vehicles of various sorts—tractors, lorries, steamers, bulldozers, excavators, etc.

The builders have removed 3,000,000 cubic metres of earth, 1,200,000 cubic metres of rock; then they brought in a huge volume of cement and metal-reinforcements. Now a 40 km-long breakwater connects the islands. Besides, they have also built a large pumping station to water 5,500 hectares of reed fields.

During this period the reed fields on Moomyungpyung have been expanded to 3,000 hectares and channels are built to bring in water.

The per hectare reed output is increasing every year. A new street has appeared, there is an office to look after the reed fields. So, no more is the island an uninhabited one, and the island is feeding the Shineuijoo Chemical Fibre Plant, one of the three biggest chemical fibre centres in our country.

Now Moomyungpyung Island yields as much raw material for fibre as 30,000 hectares of cotton fields do. Therefore, the people call it "Silk Island" now.

However, the project for reclaiming the tideland in the Shindo Island district is only part of the overall west coast reclamation program which will give 125,000 hectares of land that is to be surrounded by the 600 km-long breakwater.

When the huge project is completed, the vast land will be brought under cultivation and many "silk islands" will come into being to give more benefits to the people.

A bumper harvest of reeds is expected

The lab workers discussing on the spot about the selection of experimental plots for bigger harvest of reeds

A Rifle

The rifle shown in the photo on the opposite page is the one used by Cha Sang Ryool, a squad leader of the Korean People's Army during the Korean war.

It was in June 1950 that the U.S. imperialists started the war. In the early days the war moved on rapidly. But entering the year 1952, the front became stalemate more or less. And our army started an extensive sharpshooting campaign along with regular operations.

The sharpshooting campaign of our men put the enemy to tremble with fear.

Cha Sang Ryool was a squad leader of sharpshooters. He was a crack shot, had scored great results. The enemy men refused to come out of their trenches.

Now, squad leader Cha Sang Ryool adopted a new tactics.

One night, he and another man stole up to the enemy's position in the veil of darkness. They approached stealthily the enemy as near as 50 to 60 metres and lay in ambush. Soon, the day began to break. Yankee soldier boys staggered out in ones and in twos.

"Squad leader, shall we let them have it?" His man whispered to him. "Well, but remember. Only a bullet for each of them." No sooner had he uttered these words than the enemy guns and rifles opened up suddenly. It was their routine morning fire. This was a good chance. Cha Sang Ryool and his company fired... two Yankees fell. Other Yankees nearby showed their heels. There were more shots. That day the squad leader and his man shot seven Yankees.

He used to tell his squad: "The sharpshooter should be brave, first of all. He should be so daring to hit the enemy by a complete surprise. Then he should have a well worked-out plan as he would be tricking the enemy and strike the enemy from the flank or in the rear."

He shot more than 120 enemy soldiers with his rifle in several months after he had commenced the sharpshooting. Also he shot down an enemy's helicopter with a light machine-gun. Between March and December 1952 our sharpshooters killed or injured 10,727 enemy men.

On February 5, 1953, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of D.P.R.K. acknowledged his feat and awarded him the title of Hero of the Republic.

On display in the Memorial of the Patriotic War of Liberation is the rifle used by Hero Cha Sang Ryool, the best sharpshooter.

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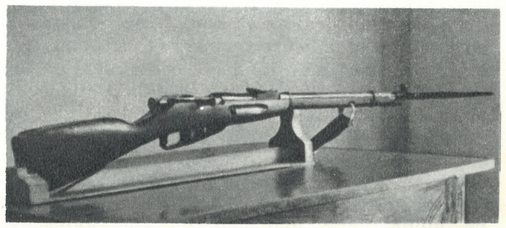

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On the "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country" (7)

State Guidance of the Rural Economy

THE "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country" gave a scientific analysis of the question of the state guiding and managing agriculture with regard to building up the country's economy and elucidated its solution.

The Theses point out:

"... In order to eliminate the distinctions between town and country and the class distinctions between the working class and the peasantry, it is necessary to rid the countryside of the backwardness in the spheres of technique, culture and ideology and also in respect of the form of ownership and the level of economic management."

Better guidance and management of agriculture becomes an important condition for expediting the technical, cultural, and ideological revolutions in the countryside, for the town helping the countryside in the most effective way, and for solving successfully the overall question of the socialist rural construction. This is due to the fact that the guidance of the peasantry by the working class, industry's help to agriculture, the town's aid to the country, and the speedy execution of the technical, cultural, and ideological revolutions in the countryside —all this can be realized through the system of agricultural management.

The Theses point out: "The basic direction of improving the guidance and management of socialist agriculture lies in steadily bringing the method of management of the agricultural co-operative economy closer to the advanced method of industrial enterprise management."

The agricultural co-operative economy is a large-scale socialist economy; it is being rapidly equipped with modern techniques. As the scope of agriculture keeps expanding and agriculture is gradually approaching the level of industry in its technical equipment, guiding and managing agriculture should be brought closer to the method of industrial management. This means, above all, that agriculture must be guided and managed by the industrial method.

As is pointed out in the Theses, management by the industrial method means the strengthening of the technical guidance in production and the planning and systematization of everything with respect to running an enterprise.

When agriculture is guided and managed by the industrial method, the technical revolution will be accelerated in the countryside, desultoriness disappear, while agriculture will be managed in an organized way, rational use of land, farm machines, work hands and others be possible, and work will be done in a cultured way. It will also give a strong impetus to the increase of agricultural production, the consolidation of the co-operative economy and the improvement of the peasants' livelihood.

Guidance by the industrial method demands accordingly an industrial guidance system.

At the time of individual farming, the state guided agriculture in an administrative method through the county people's committees. It was the most suitable at that time. However, with the completion of agricultural co-operation, the scale of agricultural co-operative farms was extended, farming techniques advanced further, and the material and technical assistance of the state to the countryside increased steeply. The technical and cultural level and consciousness of the peasantry rose steadily. The scope of agriculture expanded greatly, and there was much yet to be done. And the county people's committee found itself incapable of guiding properly agriculture any more.

It was under these conditions that the state organized the county co-operative farm management committee and the provincial rural economy committee early in 1962, and reorganized the Ministry of Agriculture into the Agricultural Commission. It is the county co-operative farm management committee that plays the most important part in the new agricultural guidance system established in our country.

The county co-operative farm management committee exercises a unified control over all agro-technicians and government-run agricultural enterprises and facilities, such as, the farm-machine stations, farm implement plants, and irrigation offices. It directly guides the co-operative farms in all their activities. The management committee is a specialized organ for guiding the co-op farms. It directly guides the co-op farms and brings the material and technical assistance of the state to them.

The county co-operative farm management committee guides agriculture by the industrial method.

The county co-operative farm management committee, taking into consideration all the factors for production, such as, land, water, farm-machines, labour force, etc., works out production plans for the co-operative farms. Then it sees to it that the farm-machine station, irrigation office, farm implement plant, and supply station draw up their plans in the light of the production plans of the co-op farms. At the same time, the management committee helps the co-op farms adopt scientific farming methods and put agricultural production on a scientific and technical footing.

The management committee also guides, in a responsible way, all the co-operative farms in the county to fulfil and overfulfil the state plans. The county management committee guides and controls the co-operative farms in solving all the problems they face in their work, such as, labour administration, management of finance and properties, a correct balance between accumulation and consumption, etc.

The county co-operative farm management committee is operating under the principle that all materials which co-op farms need should be brought to them so that they can carry out production regularly and concentrate efforts on production.

The management committee also works out a long-range programme for the county for its agricultural growth, organizes and carries out the technical revolution and rural construction in a planned way, and develops the rural economy comprehensively.

Together with the county management committee, the provincial rural economy committee and the Agricultural Commission play an important role.

It is the job of the provincial rural economy committee to work for the agricultural growth of the province as a whole, while directly guiding and aiding the county co-operative farm management committees and the state agro-stock farms. In particular, it sees to it that the county committees get promptly all the farm machines, fertilizer, agricultural chemicals and other materials that they need. It also guides the distribution of crops, seed selections, fertilization, and so on.

The Agricultural Commission, while guiding the country's agriculture as a whole, makes studies primarily on the development of agro-techniques and the long-range programme for the country's agriculture.

Our state agricultural guidance system is displaying a great superiority.

Under the new agricultural guidance system, a way of scientific guidance has been ensured, and the volume of agricultural produce has risen sharply.

Particularly, since all the up-to-date material and technical means are under the direct control of the county co-operative farm management committee, and since it directly organizes and guides the work of strengthening the technical equipment of agricultural production, the technical revolution in the countryside—irrigation, mechanization, electrification, chemicalization—is being steadily accelerated.

With the county co-operative farm management committee being solely responsible for guidance, specialization and co-operation developed between the co-operative farms and state-run agricultural enterprises, between the co-op farms themselves. As a result, the management committee can draw up production plans for the co-operative farms in a scientific way on the basis of a correct calculation of machinery, equipment, water, materials, and all other conditions, and guide them to carry out the plans.

Moreover, that the county co-operative farm management committee guides agriculture makes the state ownership and co-operative ownership link closely with each other. And the net result has been the better management of the co-operative farms in every way as the advanced method of managing the state economy is applied.

Under the new agricultural guidance system, the county co-operative farm management committee controls and guides in a unified way the co-op farms in the county as a single enterprise, and mutual relations between the co-operative farms are strengthened. As a result, internal reserves in the co-op farms are being mobilized better and the level of socialization of co-operative ownership is constantly being raised. The co-operative farms, under the unified guidance of the county co-operative farm management committee, are putting their latent potential in a most effective way, which boosts production rapidly as a whole. Moreover, now the co-op farms supply each other's needs and help each other.

The new agricultural guidance system established in our country is exhibiting its superiority and raising production rapidly.

In this way, the technical, cultural, and ideological revolutions in the countryside are being powerfully accelerated and agricultural production is being put on a solid scientific and technical basis.

TRIP TO THE LAND OF CLEAR MORNING (2)

JEAN KANAPA
Correspondent of the "Humanité" of France

COMING back to the Joyang co-operative farm, I must say, it is an excellent co-operative farm. It is a big one, too; it comprises some 1,200 families. What kind of life do these people have?

At the end of the year the co-op has a distribution day; each family receives, on an average, 3 tons of grain and over 1,400 won in cash. Then each family has its own vegetable plots—the size differs by the size of the family. At any rate, a family gets, on the average, 300 kg of cabbage and 600-700 kg of radish, pepper, and onion from these plots. Every family is raising one or two pigs and 5-15 chickens and ducks and rabbits.

In this co-op farm there are 14 kindergartens and 14 day nurseries, where some 850 children are being taken care of. Such are the day nurseries and kindergartens that I came to know in Korea's farms. A wonderful thing! And, they are well managed. There are clean playgrounds and various equipment and many other facilities. Day nurseries and kindergartens in the urban areas had surprised me, but the same could be said of the countryside!... I must be frank. No other socialist countries can be compared with North Korea in this field (to say nothing of the capitalist countries!).

Needless to say, there was not a single doctor in Joyang before liberation. But now eight doctors are there; besides, the village has a polyclinic with twelve beds.

Before liberation there were two college students (both of them were sons of what you call the elite of the village). Today, ninety boys and girls of this village are university and college graduates. Even in this rural district there are a middle school and an agricultural school—their total enrolment is about 1,200. Besides, the co-op farm has many specialists and technicians.

The farm also has a film-projector and a radio studio (it can relay programmes of the city radio stations). Every house has a receiving set over which they can listen to various programmes.

Wonderful changes have taken place in the life of the peasants, but the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government consider that there is yet much to be done.

"Although their economic foundations have grown rapidly," pointed out Comrade Kim Il Sung's Theses, "our co-operative farms are not yet rich because they were organized on too weak a foundation at first. Although the livelihood of our peasants has been rapidly improved, it is not yet bountiful enough, for they had been too poor. Since the country's liberation, especially since agriculture was co-operativized, the distinctions between town and country have been narrowed down to a great degree. But the countryside still lags considerably behind the towns, and the peasants' living standard is also lower than that of the factory and office workers, as our countryside had been in too backward a state."

The Theses also lay stress on promoting irrigation, mechanization, electrification, and chemicalization, and urge the wide application of intensive farming, the method of high productivity.

The Theses also demand that the burden of the co-operative farms should be systematically relieved; it just means to lighten the peasants' burden.

To this end, a series of very interesting measures have been taken. Firstly, the agricultural tax-in-kind (which replaced, after the land reform, the multitude of feudal impositions, farm-rents, contributions, etc.) is going to be abolished completely. The rate has already been greatly reduced from the average of 25 per cent of the harvest after liberation to 20 per cent in 1958, then, to 8.4 per cent when the war wounds were healed in the main in 1959. By 1963, more than one-third of the total co-operative farms were completely exempted from the tax-in-kind. From then on, more co-ops were exempted from tax-in-kind, starting from those co-operative farms whose economic foundations were rather weak. The system of agricultural tax-in-kind is going to be completely abolished by the end of 1966.

Secondly, from now on the Government will finance all the capital construction in the countryside (irrigation projects, water-pumping facilities, warehouses, animal sheds, electrification, etc.). The Government also cancelled the repayment of all loans given to the co-operative farms before 1963.

Thirdly, the Government will bear financial responsibilities for housing projects for the peasants and compensate the co-op farms for the fund they spent for building modern farm houses.

Besides these basic measures, the Theses also stress the work of further improving and developing service establishments in the rural districts—barbers, public bath-houses, laundries, etc.

Like this, a new stage is open and new changes are taking place in the countryside of North Korea.

HOW TO REUNIFY KOREA?

The people of this land, whether they may be in the north or south, is one people, one nation. They have one long history! To perpetuate the artificial division of the country by the 38th Parallel is, in reality, an unpardonable crime which infringes upon the national interests of Korea. The criminal in this case is the United States.

As a matter of fact, for the past twenty years the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of North Korea have done everything in their power for the country's peaceful reunification. And the U.S.A. has openly ignored the desires of the entire people of Korea.

The position of North Korea is, therefore, reasonable, just, realistic, and clear; the question of reunification must be settled peacefully by the Koreans themselves, without foreign interference, and on the democratic basis.

U.S. occupation of South Korea is the main obstacle in the question of no foreign interference with respect to Korea's unification. U.S. occupation of South Korea has put all the political (and economic) life of South Korea under its control.

It is an eloquent contrast to the North: the Soviet army, which had come to drive away the Japanese invaders from Korea and re-establish Korea's independence, withdrew immediately with the accomplishment of their mission. And the Chinese People's Volunteers, who had participated in the war to aid the Korean people to repulse the U.S. aggressors, also withdrew gradually, and completed the withdrawal in 1958. Now no foreign troops are to be found in North Korea.

South Korea, however, has been turned into a complete military base of the U.S.A.: over 50,000 American soldiers are stationed in South Korea and the Americans continuously bring in new military equipment, aircraft, submarines, rocket weapons—all sorts of war machines necessary for nuclear aggression. By the way, it is wrong if one should make light of the war danger and eventual threat to the world peace, which U.S. imperialism is creating by turning South Korea into a powder-magazine.

Still worse. This danger is growing all the more owing to the treaty which Japan recently concluded with South Korea under the allout encouragement of Washington. As is known, Korea has always been the "interest" of the ruling circles of Japan. According to the Koreans, everything is moving along as the Japanese has planned—how things are progressing is little short of the Japanese building a three-stage rocket against the North.

The first stage is marked with Washington's coaxing to Japanese imperialism, (the latter likes to be coaxed). In the next stage Japan is encouraging South Korean traitors to play the vanguard role in Japan's scheme of "reconquering" North Korea.

Such being the case, the withdrawal of all foreign troops from South Korea presents itself as the condition for settling the question of Korea's unification. Who is to solve the Korean question? The Korean peo-

Jean Kanapa at Panmunjom

In Kaesong, an ancient city, there are many scenic spots and places of historic interest. The author (extreme right) visiting the Sunjookkyo bridge of the Koryu period (10th-14th centuries), a place of historic interest

ple—only they—can solve it. It belongs to no other people, still less to the United Nations.

Unification of Korea is not an international question, but an internal matter for Korea. Even at this moment, the Koreans keep bitter memories on the U.N. The United Nations helped to set up a puppet regime in South Korea, sent troops of the sixteen countries in the war against North Korea, and supervised the notorious presidential elections held in South Korea in 1960.

Reunification of Korea can only be effected on the democratic base. Now there exist, in North and South, two regimes different to each other politically, economically, and socially. The nature of political system for unified Korea should be decided by the Koreans, the entire Korean people, and no one side should try to impose its ideas on the other.

Referring to this matter Comrade Kim Il Sung said: "We allow no one to impose his will upon us and we, on our part, do not intend to force our will on others. We always maintain that the North and South Korean authorities, political parties, and social organizations and individual personages should sit around one table and negotiate sincerely and open-heartedly to solve the question of unification."

Can they establish a unified central government through a general election? Of course, they can. However, the United States and the South Korean government want to hold "U.N.-supervised elections", that is, they are proposing elections under "the status quo"—the U.S. will keep occupying South Korea and the Seoul regime will practice the fascist dictatorship.

It is clear why they want this because South has twice as large population as that of the North!

Only when all the foreign troops withdraw from South Korea and democratic freedoms are guaranteed to the people, can there be free elections which will bring about a unified government. Korea, in the long run, will be unified by peaceful means. North Korea represents the interests of the whole nation and longs for peaceful unification of the country. North Korea does not wish for a fratricidal war for unification.

Unification must be materialized without bloodshed. The Korean people have already shed too much blood owing to the crimes of imperialism.

The question of unification can be solved only through direct consultations between North and South.

Can it be solved at a stroke? The leaders of North Korea view the matter realistically. It is their contention that there should be a transition period, for it has become impossible to hold a democratic general election in face of Seoul's attitude. It is their position that every family should be relieved from the bitter sufferings caused by the water-tight split of the country.

Contact is prerequisite for unification. North Korea is untiringly striving for it.

In order to remove the obstacles in the way to unification of Korea and create favourable conditions for intercourse between North and South, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has put forth reasonable proposals to materialize it through several steps.

STEPS TOWARD CONTACT

The first step constitutes a reduction in the armed forces, a peace treaty, and a series of other measures which would relax the tensions between North and South.

These proposals are a proof that North Korea harbours no intention of attacking against South Korea. And this point, I think, should be stressed to those who insist that North Korea has "aggressive designs".

When these proposals are put into effect a new atmosphere will be created between North and South. It will lighten the military burdens of both parties. The military burden of South Korea is particularly heavy, for it maintains a standing army 600,000 strong to prepare for war.

The second step calls for North-South exchange in the fields of economy, culture, and sports. It will promote mutual understanding and gradually remove distrust and antagonism. Besides, it will rehabilitate the bankrupt economy of South Korea. North Korea is ready to exert every effort for South Korea's rehabilitation.

The third step is to set up "North-South confederation," while both sides retaining the existing systems. A supreme national committee will be formed with representatives of North and South, which would deal with matters of interests to the whole nation. Moreover, it would represent whole Korea in the international arena. The leaders of North Korea maintain with all clarity that these proposals should not be taken as a mechanical programme which is to be accepted or rejected outright. All or nothing is not the spirit of the proposals. The order in carrying out the proposals, its tempo, and details for expediting the realization of the proposals are to be discussed. The fundamental principles are discussions, negotiations, and talks.

Anyway, I do feel there should be a start; the first step should be taken even in a limited scope.

The Government of North Korea proposed that it would receive all the unemployed in South Korea (numbering several millions) and provide them with jobs and a stabilized life. Wouldn't this serve the interests of the Korean people? There is a big flow of South Korean workers to foreign lands at a low price, particularly to Federal Germany. Students of South Korea have demanded the South Korean regime to allow them to meet students of North Korea at the Demarcation Line, but the South Korean authorities refuse their demand. Does it not prove that the South Korean authorities are fearing even discussions? North Korea is not alone in its just, staunch struggle for Korea's unification. North Korea is given political support from the fraternal socialist countries. It is also supported by democratic public opinion of the world.

I told this to the sailors in Nampo, steel-makers of Kangsun, fishermen in Hamheung, and peasants in Joyang: the French communists fully support the struggle the Workers' Party of Korea is waging for peaceful reunification of Korea.

Together with all the democratic forces of France, we can and must support this struggle.

An Unforgettable City—Bamako

LI KWANG JO

ON September 22 this year the Malian people will celebrate the 6th anniversary of the proclamation of their Republic.

Greeting the national holiday of Mali, I vividly recall the days I spent in Bamako.

Korea is situated at a long distance from Mali, and Korea and Mali differ from each other in climate, geographical features, and customs. But my Malian friends showed me great hospitality and I spent the most enjoyable days in Bamako.

During my stay in Bamako, I witnessed the industrious people endeavouring for their country's prosperity and advancement.

The Independence Day of Mali that I celebrated with my friends in September last year in the capital is as vivid as it were just yesterday.

From the early morning a festive mood prevailed in every street of the capital. Everywhere the people's praises to their power were heard. Most enthusiastically I wished the Mali people greater successes.

The Korean and Malian peoples are very close to each other as the paths they have traversed are the same and they stand shoulder to shoulder on the anti-imperialist front.

The Korean people fought against colonial rule of the foreign invaders for almost half a century. Mali, too, struggled against oppression by the imperialists and colonialists and for national independence for a long time. I still see in my mind's eye the faces of the people of Mali who are resolved firmly to safeguard their independence from any imperialist aggressors.

A fertile land, Mali is rich in mineral resources. Her wealth, however, had been plundered by the foreign rulers for over a century. Everything precious to the talented and diligent people had been trampled down.

That is why the people are strenuously striving to consolidate their power and independence they have won.

In Bamako I saw many things: a large number of cadres are being trained and a series of measures is taken to develop the national economy.

I am a civil engineer. I became acquainted with many civil engineers of Mali. One day I dropped in at the city planning bureau of the Construction Ministry. There I saw many engineers and technicians drawing blueprints for buildings, parks, bridges, streets, etc. They were planning for new Bamako, their capital. And I must confess. I was greatly impressed. Here is a people who were under the colonial yoke so long. It is only recently that they won liberation. But the country already had trained an army of its own cadres and they were planning a yet brighter future for their land.

Another indelible impression made upon me was the simple but cordial hospitality the Malian people showed us.

They liked to talk with us, they always greeted us with a smile.

One day a member of our party fell ill. Our Malian friends called on us, they brought mangoes and bananas with them.

During our stay we developed a deep friendship with our Malian friends.

On the day when we left Bamako many people came to the airport to see us off. They asked us: "Why are you leaving so soon?" They added "Come again!" "Please write to me," etc. We reluctantly said "good-by" to them.

Now here is the Malian Independence Day, and I picture in my mind the Malian people celebrating their national red-letter day.

I am sure, the Malian people are making a vigorous advance; they will strengthen their power and develop the national economy and culture, fighting against the imperialists. We Korean people highly value the friendship and solidarity with the people of Mali.

We Maintain...

Railway Line Cut Off

JOO NAM RYONG

Master of Kaesong Station

VERY often when all the family gets together, my little boy would sing a ditty for us. I suppose he learned it at the kindergarten, and it goes something like this:

"'Tis my train.
Ok Soon is the conductor,
I the engine driver.
The unification train is running,
A doll babe on it
And a lot of iron too.
It is going to Pusan..."

He tells me he is the best singer in his kindergarten. At any rate, he says habitually he would become a train engineer when he grows up. Perhaps because his father is a station master, I don't know. One thing is sure. He likes the train song, not that he understands every word he sings. Whenever he sings it, he would ask me about the meaning of the words "Unification" and "Pusan". I tell him. Pusan is the name of a port city on the south-eastern tip of the Korean peninsula.

From Shineuijoo, the northwesternmost city, to Pusan there runs the railway, nearly 1,000 kilometres long.

Pusan Railway Station is the terminal of the south-bound train from Shineuijoo. However, today the train stops at Kaesong on the waist of the peninsula. It can go no farther.

Why? Because the Military Demarcation Line is some 10 kilometres away to the south, and it blocks all traffic.

Being the station master in Kaesong, not far from the Demarcation Line, I cannot help thinking about the divided country every day.

My boy is too young to understand what the country's division and unification means. Explanations, it seems, make him ask more questions. Why the train cannot go farther? When can it go? The boy asks me these questions, and I don't seem to find proper answers to make him understand.

Our nation is a homogeneous people who have lived on this peninsula for thousands of years. They shared joys and sorrows. At no time in her long history were they barred from travelling freely throughout the country.

Kaesong was the centre of the land when it was the capital of the Koryu Dynasty for 500 years, from 10th to 14th centuries.

In modern ages when the Shineuijoo-Pusan railway line opened, traffic became all the more brisk along this line.

But from the time when the U.S. army landed in South Korea in September 1945, the north-south travel stopped and the train could go no farther.

Twenty-one years have passed since then. And all these years the nation has been split and families are separated. The children born at the time of liberation are now grown up; they are in their twenties. And the middle-aged of yesterday is touched with grey.

A grandpa is awaiting the day of unification, saying that he must see his grandson in his time. The younger one is anxiously waiting for the day when he can meet his grandpa. Now parents and children, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends are separated in North and South. They cannot even write to each other. There are so many families who are placed under such a sad lot.

Kim Jong Koo, an engine driver, is one of them. He often speaks of his aging parents in Seoul. Seoul is only a two hours' travel by train from here. But he cannot make his parents come and live with him. Then there is Shin In Kyoon. He carried a cigarette box instead of a school satchel in his childhood and went from place to place in Seoul to get a few pennies. But in North Korea he could go to school and study to his heart's content. Now he is a train engineer, and is determined to drive the first unification train to Pusan.

The North is thinking about the South, and the South is thinking about the North. The people's hearts in the North and in the South have one and the same hope—unification.

According to a South Korean paper, there was a couple who came to visit Panmunjom from Seoul last summer. Kaesong had been their home. In Panmunjom they were choked with tears because they had no way of meeting their parents though they lived only a stone's throw away.

Hoping to put an end to such an abnormal state, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which has always held that the country must be unified peacefully on an independent, democratic principle, proposed time and again North-South postal service and travel as the first step for restoring national ties.

Every time natural calamities befell the South Korean people, our Government proposed to send relief goods for them, take over and bring up the orphans, and give scholarships to South Korean students.

However, these proposals have not been realized due to the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, who are bent on perpetuating Korea's division and making South Korea a U.S. colony.

Whenever I answer my little boy's questions, I feel more than ever that all those obstacles to unification should be removed and misfortunes and hardships the Korean people are undergoing because of the split be swept away at the earliest day.

This is the earnest desire of the entire Korean people of thirty million.

On the day when the long-cherished desire of the entire Korean people comes true, the railway cut off at Kaesong Station will be linked again and the unification train will run to Pusan. For the day I shall work harder.

A Short Story

Oki (3)

CHUN SE BONG

The following morning.

It was very much against his will, but Bong Kook had no alternative but to start for the Kangnam-ri village on the other side of the river.

During the night he was so upset he told the co-op man he would take a detour. And he slept on the idea. But now he was on the river bank. The village was just across the river. And he could not help feeling a little awkward to think that he would make a detour out of meanness—it is a long distance. He was wanting in excuse for the detour; then his conscience pricked.

But there was no help—the die was cast. He told the co-op chairman of Kangnam that he would not cross the river but take a longer way. So, naturally, they would not send anyone to crack the ice for his tractor. He thought of driving over the frozen—rather half thawed—river. But, who knows? The ice might give away. Then, where would he be? He himself would have to jump off the tractor and crack the river and open a passage. No thank you, he said to himself.

Then the people would laugh at him anyway—they would say he is a fickle.

Bong Kook thought things were in a pretty fix. He felt like swearing at himself—though he knew he has made a mess of everything. But there shouldn't be any retreat; he started his tractor toward the township.

The weather had been pleasant for the past few days, but there was a sudden drop—the wind was almost biting this morning. He drove the tractor along the big road by the river. He stepped on the gas. He wanted to get the village as soon as possible even he had to go by the township.

But he was startled when he reached the ford to the Kangnam village. There was someone cracking the ice, and the figure was almost on this side of the river! He looked hard from his driver's seat. To his surprise, it was Oki! She was in the water. She was wearing a black blouse, and that's all Bong Kook could see. It must be an axe, she was busy swinging it. It was something that Bong Kook never had dreamed to see, and there was something that touched him deeply. But, on the next moment, the sight of Oki made him mad all over again.

"So? ...I'll show you. I won't cross here!" Bong Kook grumbling drove the tractor by the ford. He may have gone another 100 metres or so—he didn't like what he's doing.

He stopped the engine and standing up from the seat looked into the river.

The wind was still quite strong. There was Oki gazing at the tractor. Evidently, she was trying to make out why the tractor passed by. Now he felt he had gone a little too far.

Turning around his tractor, he came back to the ford. Once he was there, he became more sulky.

In the meantime, Oki, seeing the tractor turning around, resumed her breaking the frozen river. She was at it hammer and tongs. Crushed ice pieces landed in her hair, now and then big pieces sparkled in the morning sun.

Carefully he put the machine on the river and started to move. But, before long, the ice cracked. Ice got in the wheels and the tractor got stuck in the river bottom. Bong Kook tried hard to get it out, but only the wheels kicked pebbles. Oki shouted.

"Wait now. I'll crack the ice for you."

Bong Kook was not in a mood to give a heed to Oki's words. Tried hard he did. But he could not have the machine out of the jam.

Now he startled. Oki was a sight! The wind was quite strong, but she was short of breath from the laborious task. Her blouse was all wet and cold water was dripping from her hair.

Bong Kook thought she presented a picture of one fighting a ferocious enemy. He jumped off the machine and rushed to where she was. He lifted up Oki from the water, saying, "You get out there!"

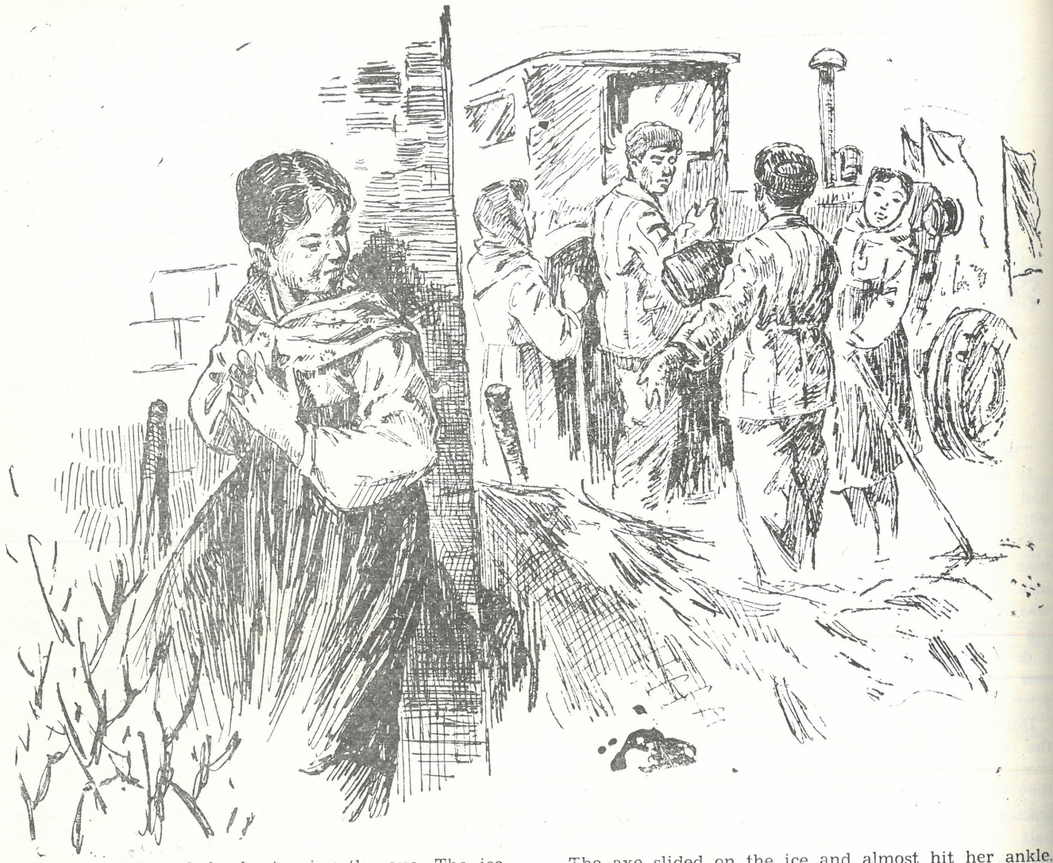
Then he took away the axe from her and began to crack the ice. Oki protested.

"I am all right. I am about it through, anyway. You will get yourself wet."

"You don't know how to go about it. Nobody cracks the ice that way. You should do this way, going backward."

"Ya, I tried that too. But I kept falling."

"No such thing."



Moving backward, he kept using the axe. The ice cracked in chunks. The falling ice made him stumble. Now he was in the water, too. Bong Kook hitting the river with the axe asked Oki.

"Did the co-op people say you'd crack the ice?"

"Not exactly!"

"Why are you doing this then? Who knows? You may get drowned."

Not knowing what to say, Oki just stood there, her pale lips quivering from the cold.

It was the previous evening. Oki heard from the team leader that Bong Kook was coming to help the land levelling job. It worried Oki to no end as she knew the ice was not so firm. She thought the co-op people should crack the ice for Bong Kook's tractor. She could hardly fall into sleep.

Oki had never given a second thought to what Bong Kook said about breaking the engagement. She knew human minds were not so simple like that.

She figured. If the agricultural co-op had forgotten to send out people to break the ice, she herself would do it. So, as soon as she woke up in the morning, she came to the river carrying an axe hidden in her skirt.

In the meantime, Bong Kook finished the job and threw the axe in the direction where Oki was. What he meant was, "you take this and go home." He cracked the frozen river, but he was still mad at Oki.

The axe slided on the ice and almost hit her ankle. She picked it up and hurriedly stepped over the river. If she was glad—she could not say exactly. She felt cold. Reaching the bank she put the handle into the sleeve of the wet blouse and held the blade wrapped with her skirt. Now she started running.

By the time when Bong Kook reached the field through the village, already many were out there.

Since he was told to help with the land levelling Bong Kook expected the work would be just starting. But, to his surprise, much had been done already. He had figured some paddy fields would be levelled. But a big "mountain" was levelled to dump earth on low fields. So there would not be much digging, and the work will be so much easier, he thought. He drove his tractor where flags of different colours were fluttering in the morning breeze.

"My, you're early, Comrade Bong Kook! We thought you're coming by the township."

As soon as he stopped his machine, the people gathered around and asked him how he came by. Bong Kook answered.

"But there was no time for it."

"Then, how did you cross the river? Since you said you're coming the other way, we didn't even bother to crack the frozen river."

To tell the truth, Bong Kook was not in a mood to extend the conversation on that subject. His legs were wet and his teeth chattered from the cold.

"Then you didn't crack the ice to cross?"

"Of course! Look at me, I'm wet."

"Gee, we are so sorry, it is our fault."

The people went around the mountain to come back with bundles of firewood. They built a fire and made him stand before it to dry himself. Steam began to come from his wet trousers.

Presently Bong Kook said that they should get down to business. He jumped on the tractor and started the engine. Suddenly the leader of Oki's workteam appeared grinning broadly.

"Look, Bong Kook. This is from Oki. She says you shouldn't work in that wet clothes. She has brought these but could not give them to you. She is so shy—I don't know why! So I said I'd bring them to you."

"You didn't have to do that. Mine is all dry now."

He did not take the package. Soon the engine started and he drove the tractor where the people were digging. Carts and wheelbarrows were busy carrying soil. He too carried earth in his trailer.

The whole place hummed. Bong Kook did not notice where Oki was. But unexpectedly he caught a sight of her. She was in a pink blouse—the tiny thing! She was among the bunch of people who were shovelling. And there were many carts waiting to be loaded.

Oki worked hard. With all her energy she used the shovel. Now girls were teasing Oki again.

"Look, Oki! You'd feel awfully good this morning. Here is your boy friend who has come all the way to help you. Isn't that nice? He doesn't want to see you work so hard. So he came with his tractor!"

Only Ke Sook made a face at Bong Kook. In the end, she said. "That's enough now! What is good about the trailer? Maybe, Oki likes it. If she did, she is you know what..."

The girls did not understand what Ke Sook meant. Only Oki knew and she just hoped Ke Sook would not say any more.

A long line of carts was waiting for their turns and the girls kept scooping up earth to load the carts.

Oki's shovel was busier than others. Now and then Bong Kook's tractor came into her sight. It warmed her heart so. And she felt she should do more today.

But it was a different story with Bong Kook. He was cross all morning. When the lunch break came around, the co-op farmers invited him to lunch together, but he declined, saying he did not feel like eating. Soon everyone but him went away.

All alone, he was grumpier than ever. He kept pacing back and forth in the field for a time before he lay himself over some grass. But only a minute. He was up again. Suddenly he felt lonesome. He asked himself. Everyone is gone. Why should I stay here all alone like this? It was last year around this time that I was here to help these people ploughing. I wasn't like this then. But now, I know I have made a wrong choice, then I was fresh from school!

He thought. How ambitious he was those days! He knew he was learning from the great reality, and the joy of working. How proud he was to help the peasants with the tractor the Party had given him. And did he work! Sometimes, he recalled, the co-op farmers were so moved that they carried him on their shoulders too!

Suddenly an air of heavy melancholy overpowered him. He decided to have a smoke and lit up a cigarette.

He noticed Oki was approaching. Evidently she was coming back to work after lunch. Oki stopped in front of the tractor and looked around before putting a bundle on it. Must be a lunch box. The pink blouse went down the hill and disappeared.

Bong Kook grumbled.

"I give up! What's wrong with that girl? She has no guts! And I don't care!"

He tossed away the half-smoked cigarette and threw himself on the grass again. For sometime his eyes were fixed on the blue sky. He was mad with himself. But—he could not say why for sure—tears came into his eyes. Then he complained. "That little thing gives me so much trouble." If she had been around, he was not sure what he would have done. But he could not help feeling sorry for her in a way.

It seemed, after all, man is not the master of his own mind. He tried to think ill of her, but she touched him. He had never expected that the small heart could have so much.

He remembered the plum blossoms in the snow—the little flowers so fragrant and cheerful yet so strong and intense. He compared Oki to the plum flowers. But the next moment he told himself: She said my feet were not on the ground. Remember? I

don't feel proud of my work. That's what she said.

Before long the afternoon work started. People were more enthusiastic than ever. They were jolly and rushing. But not Bong Kook. Gloomy as ever he ran his machine.

The next day. Bong Kook looked more dispirited. Even during the break he avoided the people and kept to himself. He seemed he was wrapped in deep thoughts always.

It was Ke Sook who felt that she could not keep quiet any more. She recalled. Oki said that those horrible words of Bong Kook meant little as he was so excited. But the way he behaved last few days shows, Ke Sook is sure now, he meant what he said. All right. He didn't want to take the clothes and lunch she brought. But why should he shun Oki's house? He lives in the dormitory, and not once did he visit Oki and her mother.

Ke Sook thought Oki was a dope. And she felt she should tell everything to Oki's mother and have her show him one of two things. So, one evening she called on Oki's mother quietly, and told the elderly woman in detail about the conversation she had overheard. In the end, she even blamed Oki, saying that the girl had no backbone.

Now Oki's mother was furious. She had scolded him severely, but it was coming to him. She had no idea that matters have come to such a state. Of course, she knew Bong Kook was staying at the dormitory. But she figured he did that because he was angry, but nothing like breaking the engagement! She had never dreamed he would even breathe anything like that. This is no children's game, she thought.

Oki's mother was angry with Bong Kook but more with Oki. She said to herself: What's wrong with that girl? She could not say a word when he said he'd break off the engagement. Yet, she takes clothes and lunch! I have never expected my Oki would be like this. She was so indignant that she even did not see Ke Sook leave. Now she decided to go to the dormitory and have a talk with him.

Hurriedly she changed and was on her way to the dormitory. But she met Ke Sook standing at the village entrance.

"What are you doing here?"

"Be quiet, please. Oki and Bong Kook have just gone that way. It seems they will talk it out to-night."

"So where did they go?"

"I guess they went down to the river. Shall we go and see?"

Oki's mother felt her heart pound harder. And Ke Sook too felt quite indignant. Quietly both of them went down to the river.

Bong Kook and Oki were on the bank. Ke Sook and Oki's mother hid themselves behind a big tree at the foot of the bank. There was Bong Kook's voice.

"You know, Oki. You really surprised me. I have never expected your heart was so big. In a way, it's frightening too. But you still think I'm in the mid-air?"

"I think so..."

"What do you mean you think so. Nothing's wrong with going to the university and study, is there?"

"Of course, not! But you should give some thought to what you're doing. You have acquired a skill at the government's solicitude. Now the whole country is in the midst of agricultural mechanization. Yet, you want to quit and leave. No matter what we do, we must question ourselves if it is most benefitial to the state. And our conscience should be the yardstick. So I feel you should take pride in what you are doing and study too. I had a reply from my brother who is in the Kim Chaik Politechnical Institute."

"What reply?"

"I wrote him. I asked him a lot of questions. Who can take the correspondence courses? When is the registration? And many more. He says there'll be an entrance exam in the summer. You had better start preparing. He knows you have been studying though you finished only a junior high. So he is sure you're qualified; but, just the same time, he says you should study hard."

Bong Kook had nothing to say. He was completely overwhelmed. His eyes were fixed on the moon. Oki continued.

"Bong Kook, please think it over... You can study while you drive the tractor. What you do is so honorable. Didn't you ever hear that the work place is a school too. Don't ever think I'm trying to show off. I myself too have been studying since my graduation, and I think I'll take a chance when there are state qualifications examination this summer. I am sure I can make out a few subjects all right. There are two junior high graduates in our co-op who passed the exam and now they are agro-technicians. One is good in soil. I asked him yesterday to see you. Did he come to see you?"

"Yes, he did."

"Did he tell you how he studied while working in this co-operative?"

"Yes, in detail."

"So, you can do it. That's what I think I will do too."

"Oki, that's enough now. I can see what you're driving at?"

"Then let me ask you. Do you agree with me or not?"

"Of course! Do I have a choice?"

"Thanks!"

Oki seemed wiping off her tears.

Greatly touched was Oki's mother, who told Ke Sook:

"After all, she is no dope as we thought! I thought she was not what I expected. But I tell you she knows what she is doing!"

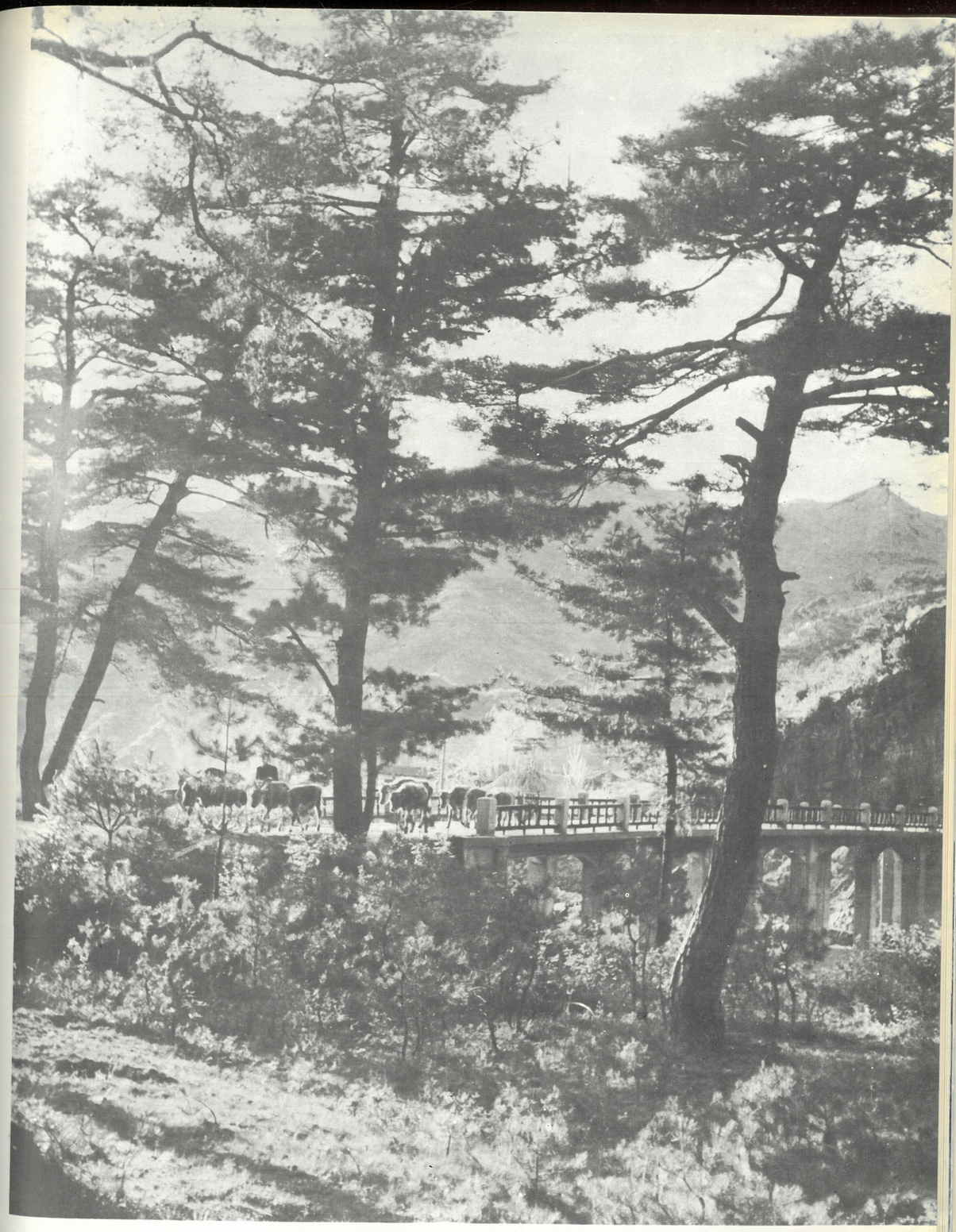
"I guess I did not know Oki either. Today I have seen her real self!"

Ke Sook spoke breathing hard. Her eyes were swelled in tears.

Oki and Bong Kook rose to their feet, and started to walk in leisurely steps in the silvery beams.

Ke Sook felt sorry for herself—she had been so rash. She was nothing beside Oki.

Presently Oki's mother asked Ke Sook they should go. Not to show her tears Ke Sook turned her face and stood up. Oki's mother walked lively. She felt if Oki had been in front of her, she would lift her up and kiss her on her rosy cheeks.



Morning in a Mountain Village

Oil painting **"My Grazing Land" (1965)** *by Hwang Jong Yun*

Oil painting **"Love" (1961)** *by Ri Dong Heui*

Shim Hye Yung is leaving for the enemy-controlled area on a secret mission. Now she is saying goodbye to Huh Chul Man, the unit commander

Huh Chul Man, being released from prison, calls at the house of Shim Il Ro, his old teacher, and meets his daughter Hye Yung before going to Kanto in Northeast China (where many Koreans live)

Huh Chul Man is again arrested by the police in Kanto

A New Korean Feature Film

"A STORY OF A UNIT COMMANDER"

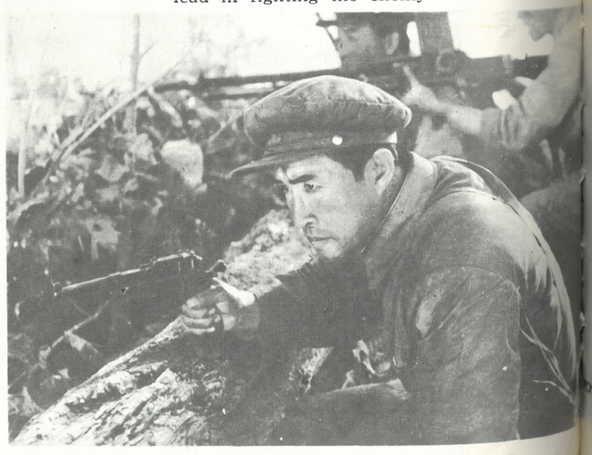
BAK HAK

"A Story of a Unit Commander" (in two parts), a new feature film produced by the Korean Feature Film Studio, is on a revolutionary who gave his all for the cause of the country's independence in the anti-Japanese armed struggle organized and led by Comrade Kim Il Sung in the thirties.

It tells how a man should live and for what. It speaks of the revolutionary principle, hatred for the enemy, invincible will, warm comradeship, and boundless loyalty to revolution.

Huh Chul Man (played by Merited Actor Choo Suk Bong), the hero of the story, is a patriotic intellectual who embraced Marxism-Leninism as his ideological weapon in the 1920's, the cradle period of the Korean revolution.

Huh Chul Man always takes the lead in fighting the enemy



As the film opens Chul Man is seen being released from prison and going to see his old teacher Shim Il Ro. He meets with Hye Yung (played by Oo In Heui), Shim Il Ro's daughter.

Hye Yung is a girl who, lamenting over the ruin of the country, is seeking earnestly a way out. Love for the country is burning in her heart after her father, yet she does not know exactly how to fight. It is Chul Man who enlightens her as to the way of revolution. To her Chul Man is a symbol of revolutionary principle—nothing, even prison, can cow him.

Shim Il Ro is a nationalist and patriotic-minded person. He agreeing with the resolve of his old pupil who says he wants to proceed to Manchuria to go on with his revolutionary work, wishes him success. His strong will to do revolution to the end is a great inspiration to Shim Il Ro and his daughter. Now Hye Yung resolves to take an example after Chul Man, and sees him off at the railway station.

Chul Man becomes a teacher in Kanto, Manchuria, and educates the younger generation of the Koreans in the spirit of patriotism and eventually organizes a revolutionary movement.

At that time, in Korea itself fascist rule of Japanese imperialism reaches a new high and the people are groaning. Reality teaches him that he must take up arms if he wants to destroy Japan and save the nation as Comrade Kim Il Sung has said. Now, Chul Man recruiting young men of a mind takes away weapons from the enemy. At last he organizes an anti-Japanese guerrilla unit.

Meanwhile Shim Il Ro's family is ruined by the Japanese. Il Ro is arrested by the enemy; he tells his daughter Hye Yung that she should go her own way for revolution.

Hye Yung leaves home to be on her long, unknown journey—she is to locate Chul Man. She wanders from place to place... There were many hardships that she had to overcome and she did. In the end, Hye Yung meets Chul Man, now commander of a unit of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army in a secret guerrilla base. She becomes eventually a member of his unit. There are some who do not trust her. According to them, she is too fair complexioned and her fingers are too slim for a revolutionary. But Hye Yung can take all that. Only she steels herself in the revolutionary struggle.

Indeed, the revolution is attended with many difficulties. Now company commander Song Joong Kwon makes a mistake.

The unit has no grain, and the company commander staging a game of false surrender to the enemy wipes out the enemy and gets grain. But this has an evil influence upon the people, who have held trust in the guerrillas and helped the revolutionary army. It is a serious offense against the unit, to which nothing is more precious than the unity with the people. Huh Chul Man removes Song Joong Kwon, his old pupil and comrade-in-arms, from the post of company commander, and imposes disciplinary confinement on Hye Yung, when she pleads for Song Joong Kwon.

Thus Chul Man values the revolutionary principles above all. Hye Yung breathing such air grows up in her revolutionary thinking. And she, a weak-willed intellectual, eventually transforms into a revolutionary, and carries out underground activities in an enemy occupied district. But she is caught by the enemy, and in the end she gives her life for the cause of revolution. At this moment the unit led by Chul Man attacks the town and wipes out the enemy with the help of report sent in by Hye Yung.

The town is liberated from the enemy, but Hye Yung is gone! Her death rends Chul Man's heart and her comrades'. Her boundless loyalty to revolution inspires them with a fresh conviction—they would fight for restoration of the fatherland until the death.

The arduous struggle waged by the anti-Japanese guerrillas, the best sons and daughters of Korea, was woven with joys and sorrows, hardships and sufferings, love and hatred. The film makes every viewer question what made them fight so.

The film is packed with emotion-charged scenes where thoughts and movements of different characters are so admirably portrayed. Those scenes—hero Chul Man meets Hye Yung in her home after his release from prison, Yu Choo gives his life in capturing weapons from the enemy, and Chul Man's funeral oratory at the memorial service for Hye Yung—are most impressively done. The film brings to life the anti-Japanese armed struggle on the screen with a penetrating characterization.

How I Acted the Part of Hye Yung

OO IN HEUI

In the feature film "A Story of a Unit Commander" I was given the part of Shim Hye Yung, the heroine of the film. This is the second time that I played the main role.

Hye Yung is a woman intellectual who was born at a time when Korea was a Japanese colony. She grows up into an innocent, enthusiastic, and intelligent girl who boundlessly loves her country.

Inspired by the revolutionary consciousness of Huh Chul Man, the hero of the film, whom she loves from her school days, Hye Yung is a staunch fighter who remains faithful to the revolution to the last moment of her life. As you see, Hye Yung is not an ordinary girl, and to portray such a revolutionary fighter is not an easy job. To me, this was something tremendous!

Moreover, Hye Yung could not declare her love to Huh Chul Man, the unit commander, until her tragic death. I must confess. I thought the fountain pen scene was most difficult. It is a scene in which Hye Yung asks Chul Man to give her his fountain pen for keeps when she is about to leave for an enemy-controlled area on a secret mission.

True, she asks him for the fountain pen, but her heart wants to say more, far more. And she does want to hear from him words that she herself wants to say! Such was her inner world when she left for the dangerous area on an important revolutionary mission. I wanted to do my best to give a true portrayal of her heart—the noble spiritual world of a revolutionary.

I read the reminiscences of the

revolutionary fighters who participated in the anti-Japanese armed struggle and called on several women revolutionaries. I tried to learn from them their life and noble spiritual world. I felt that if I was to characterize a woman revolutionary truly, I myself should bear such a noble revolutionary spirit. I studied the part diligently. The director and my colleagues helped me. I read the script dozens of times. I tried to analyse in every way the character of the heroine; I learned every line, every movement, every gesture to be the heroine, a woman revolutionary.

I stood before the camera for the first time in 1958. If there is anything to be said about my role in the new film, it is because I tried to grasp the spiritual world of the women guerrillas; then the collective helped me in every way, and the people inspired me.

Now I am studying a new role for the next film.

Domestic Account-book

KIM PYUNG NAM
A Smelter
Kim Chaik Iron Works

IT was a Sunday and I decided to take it easy. There was nothing to do in particular. In the course of the day, I came across an old domestic account-book in one of the drawers. It was what my wife had kept. She recorded incomes and expenditures in detail. With interest I began to glance it over. The book covered a period of seven years. Eventually, I figured the average monthly income of my family increased 3.2 times during the past five years.

The increase of income is attributable to my grade which went up considerably—it means a bigger pay envelope—then to my wife's working. On top of it, there has been a pay rise for the factory and office workers. Looking back on these years, I examined my wife's entries in the domestic account-book carefully. I noticed, first of all, between 1960-1965 the family food bill went down from 48 to 41 per cent, while expenditures for clothing, furniture, cultural and other miscellaneous items rose from 52 to 59 per cent, or 3.6 times in terms of cash. Money we spent for furniture and house-decoration rose 5 times, and that for clothings 2.9 times.

During this period, the state retail prices of consumer goods and the rates of various fees went down considerably. As a result, we could buy more clothings and furniture, while cultural and social amenities from the state increased. A great change has been brought about in the composition of the family expenses, too.

In 1960, out of the total amount of materials that we bought, cotton and staple fibre counted for 80 per cent; but in 1965, silk and woolen fabrics covered 78 per cent.

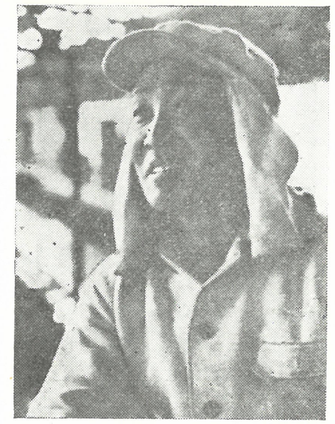
I recalled the past years while doing these figurings.

During the Korean war, our house was burnt down, and, when the war ended, we had nothing. By 1954, the year after the cease-fire, all our belongings could be tucked into a few suit-cases. However, today we have many suits and dresses... then, a radio, a sewing-machine, a tall chest-of-drawers, etc., etc.

I thought to myself. Thanks to free medical treatment in our country, there are no items for medicines and doctor's fees. Then the country has enforced a 7-year compulsory school education, which means all schooling is free. All the students are provided with school things at a very low price. Take the case of my family for example. Now my boy is studying at the Chungjin Mining College, and the girl at the Chungjin Higher Metallurgical School. The boy receives even stipends every month. Such benefits from the state keep increasing. When all this is added up, it can safely be concluded that most of the cultural and miscellaneous items meant for buying furniture and for recreation and enjoyment. In short, the account-book said that while the income rose the food bill was down. In our country all the factory and office workers and their dependents are supplied with rice, the staple food, at a low price, almost next to nothing. Accordingly, the major part of our food bill was for buying subsidiary articles of diet. Many of the basic food items, say, bean paste, soy sauce, salt, etc., are sold at a very low price, no more than cost. Here, too, we are much benefited by the solicitude of the state.

The family consumed more meat, fish, oil, etc. Compared with 1960, in 1965 we had more oil, some 3.6 times, meat 2.5 times, and fish 1.9 times. This is not all. In the old days, we had no house of our own, not even a humble hut. But now we live in a fine apartment. Yet, rent, and water and electricity bills barely account for only 0.7 per cent of our living expenses.

Studying the domestic account-book almost item by item, I thought of the great changes which took place in our life, changes unthinkable apart from the economic development of the country. Besides these, we still receive more benefits from the state. For one thing, the factory and office workers are entitled to a vacation with pay; they can enjoy themselves at rest-homes and sanatoria. Kindergartens and day nurseries have been set up everywhere. As for me, I spent



vacations at rest-homes in Wonsan, Jooeul, etc. Of course, all the expenses were paid by the state. These additional benefits all told amount to more than half of the total amount of the wages I get. The account-book made me feel once again how well off we are. I made a new determination to work hard for a yet happier future and prosperity of the country.

Taking a stroll with his family on an off-day

Imperialists' Plots Being Shattered

GEORGE G. VULATA

Treasurer of the Tanganika Institute of Journalists

THE Korean people have done a lot and are winning one victory after another in building socialism in the northern part of the country.

They owe the bountiful, happy life to the correct guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea under the leadership of Premier Marshal Kim Il Sung.

The Korean people stood up to safeguard the country's freedom and independence and drove away the U.S. imperialists who dreamed to make all the Korean people their slaves and turn the whole of Korea into their colony.

The people in North Korea are masters of their destinies and they are on the road of independent development. They established a people's government of their own will, enforced the land reform and other democratic reforms, their long-cherished desire. They have devoted all their energies and talents to the construction of a democratic, independent state in the spirit of self-reliance.

During my stay in North Korea I have seen that the people are enjoying freedom and rights in all fields and they all have jobs according to their skills and knowledge. I was told that there is no unemployment in North Korea; on the contrary, they feel a shortage of work hands.

Leading a life of plenty, the people have no worry about food, clothing, and housing.

The friendship between the peoples of Tanzania and the D.P.R. of Korea has been strengthened by the visit of the 2nd Vice-President of Tanzania the Hon. Rashid Kawawa to this country last year. The people of Tanzania were greatly delighted to hear about the warm welcome that the Vice-President was accorded.

The friendship between countries is an essential thing especially at this period when many Afro-Asian countries are waging intensive struggles against imperialism and colonialism, old and new, led by the United States.

The war in Vietnam which has today become the focus of the world's attention clearly shows how desperately the U.S. imperialists are resorting to aggression and war. They have intensified the criminal aggressive war in South Vietnam, spread its flames to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and are recklessly trying to escalate it further to the whole of Indo-China and Asia.

The people of the Congo (L) are waging a heroic struggle to achieve complete liberation of their country against the armed aggression of the U.S. imperialists and Belgian colonialists and against the reactionaries at home.

Other African countries which have already won national independence—Tanzania, Mali, Guinea, Algeria and Congo (B)—are courageously fighting to defend their independence and freedom so that they may speed up their economic development.

The U.S. imperialists and colonialists are employing the means of open subversion and coup d'etats in their attempt to stamp out the independence and progress of the African and Asian peoples and enslave them again.

The U.S. and British imperialists and their henchmen have engineered coup d'etats in a number of African countries and installed pro-imperialist elements in power.

As a journalist, I know U.S. occupation of South Korea and its policy of colonial subjugation are the root cause of the misfortunes and hardships of the South Korean people, the basic obstacle to the unification of Korea, and the source of danger of war in Korea.

We know that the only way of coping with the present catastrophic situation in South Korea and ending the tragedy of national split is to achieve the unification of the country with the patriotic forces of the nation. This task should be left to the Korean people themselves.

For many years the broad masses of the people in Africa and Asia have been subjected to colonial enslavement, ruthless exploitation, and sanguinary slaughter by old and new colonialism.

However, the African and Asian peoples have awakened and stood up. Many of our brothers and sisters who have not yet won independence and freedom are rising up in armed struggle. Colonial rule and imperialist control in Africa have begun to disintegrate. In the countries which have won independence, the people have become vigilant although the imperialists are cunningly plotting to come back by the back door.

All imperialist plots to strangle and obstruct the people's forward march will certainly end up in failure.

GREETINGS TO THE YEMENI PEOPLE

JOO WANG CHUL

IT is about one year since we visited Yemen, "the Paradise of the Arab Land". But our memories of Yemeni friends who showed us such warm hospitality and beautiful Nature of Yemen are still so fresh.

Everywhere we visited, at Sana, the city of pagodas hemmed in by the mountains, at Ta'izz, the second biggest city in the country, and at Hodeida, a port city, we saw the high spirits and grand profile of the people.

New factories, schools, hospitals, and cultural institutes were built up in cities and towns.

Set free from despotism, the people were treading confidently along the newly paved streets.

Yemen's Nature and people, worthy of the name, are beautiful and affectionate.

This "Arabian Paradise" lost its glow for a long time under colonial rule of the foreign invaders and absolute monarchy.

On September 26, 1962, at last the Al Badr feudal autocratic regime was turned over and the Yemeni people began to embark on the road of creating a new life. And the people proclaimed the establishment of the Yemeni Arab Republic. And during the past few years the looks of Yemen have gone through a fundamental change.

The brave and sturdy people of Yemen led by President Abdullah El Sallal have achieved a number of successes in the fields of economy, culture, and public health. These successes were the fruition of the stubborn struggle which the people waged against all odds to erase remnants of colonial rule and absolute monarchy. Its agricultural production rose, national industry developed day by day. Remarkable progress was to be noted also in the fields of education and culture.

The 1st five-year plan which began in 1965 promises the Yemeni people a brighter future.

Their successes we saw in town and country and at factories gladdened us like our own.

Today, greeting the 4th anniversary of the victory of the Yemeni revolution and the birth of the Yemeni Arab Republic, I congratulate the Yemeni people for the epochal turning point scored in their history, and I send my best wishes to my friends.

The victory of the Yemeni revolution opened a way to a new life for the people; at the same time, it dealt a staggering blow to the imperialists who committed aggression and plunder, collaborating with the reactionary feudal circles of the country.

The imperialists are doing everything in their attempt to stifle the young Yemeni Arab Republic in its cradle. They instigated the remnants of the overthrown feudal monarchical class to start a civil war, then they themselves staged direct armed intervension. They inspired the traitors to start an armed treason against the Republic, supplying them with weapons, while their planes raiding Yemeni towns and villages.

However, the Yemeni people have risen up in the struggle to defend their revolutionary gains and repulse the enemies' encroachment, both from within and without. And their strikes are baffling the enemy.

At the same time, the Yemeni people are fighting against all intrigues of the imperialists including Washington's scheme to set up a reactionary "bloc" through what they call the "Islamic treaty", which is aimed to break the unity and solidarity of the Arab nations.

The Yemeni people are doing everything to support their brothers in Palestine who are struggling for liberation, and the Afro-Asian peoples' struggle for national liberation against imperialism.

The Korean people extend their resolute support to the Yemeni people's just struggle which is being carried on for the consolidation of independence and freedom, for liberation of South Yemen, and for crushing every sinister plot of the imperialists and their lackeys.

The two peoples of Korea and Yemen are close comrades-in-arms fighting hand in hand against the common enemy—imperialism and colonialism.

In Yemen, members of our delegation felt the deep friendship of the Yemeni people towards the Korean people every time we attended banquets, film shows, and the celebration meeting of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Yemeni people are resolutely supporting the Korean people who are struggling for driving out U.S. troops from South Korea and for the peaceful unification of Korea.

The amicable relations between our two peoples, formed in the common struggle against imperialism and colonialism, have been further consolidated and developed since March, 1963 when diplomatic relations were established between the two countries.

Under the banner of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism, the Korean people will fight shoulder to shoulder with the Yemeni people.

I wish again to extend my best wishes to the Yemeni people who are celebrating their most significant festival, and wish them greater successes in their future struggle for creating a new life.

THE WAY TO KOREA'S UNIFICATION

PAK IL RO

KOREA is still divided into north and south. For more than twenty years the Korean people have been separated—a homogeneous nation who speak one and the same language and have the same customs, a people who have lived on the same territory for centuries. Indeed, the split is a tragic event for the land.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from its very inception has made every effort for the country's unification. It has been its firm stand that the Korean question must be solved peacefully on an independent, democratic basis by the Korean people themselves without foreign interference.

Time and again, the Government of the D.P.R.K. proposed to the South Korean authorities on the solution of the question of unification by way of establishing a central government comprising representatives of all sections of the people through all-Korea free elections after making the U.S. troops withdraw from South Korea.

The question of Korea's unification cannot be solved so long as one side, be it North or South, attempts to impose its will on the other. It can and must be solved only through all-Korea elections which will fully reflect the will of the entire Korean people.

North-South elections for peaceful unification must be conducted on the principle of universal suffrage, equality, and direct vote by secret ballot.

In order to hold such elections, all political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea and individuals should be able to engage in political activities and express their views openly in all parts of North and South Korea without any restriction.

Only when such conditions are ensured, can the Korean people know which political party and who will defend their interests, and vote for those candidates they support. Moreover, all citizens, irrespective of their political affiliations, political views, property status, education, beliefs, and sex, should enjoy the rights to elect and to be elected in any regions of North and South Korea without any discrimination.

If the general elections throughout the north and south are to be held in a free atmosphere, the U.S. army must be driven out of South Korea and South Korean society must be democratized. For so long as South Korea is under U.S. occupation and the present military fascist dictatorship, never will there be a chance for the people to express their will freely.

To solve the problem of Korea's unification along this line, representatives of the North and South Korean governments and political parties and social organizations as well as individuals should get together and negotiate.

The unification proposals of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea correctly reflect the objective realities prevailing in North and South Korea. They are realistic and fair, not infringing on the interests of any side, either north or south.

Nevertheless, the successive South Korean regimes under U.S. control have been dead set against the proposals. They rave about the so-called U.N.-supervised elections, saying that the democratic, free elections throughout north and south without outside interference means "communization" of South Korea.

Demanding the "unification under U.N.-supervised elections" they claim that the United Nations should play the key role in solving the Korean question and the U.N. army, that is, the U.S. army, should remain in South Korea until such unification is brought about and that only "the legal government of the Republic of Korea recognized by the United Nations" should function.

This goes diametrically counter to the principle of solving the Korean question on the democratic and independent basis. Under the name of the United Nations, the United States is scheming to keep South Korea under its occupation and extend its vicious colonial rule to North Korea with what they call "free elections". All the "elections" held under U.N. supervision in South Korea testify to this.

Turning a deaf ear to the opposition of the South Korean people, the U.S. imperialists held, at gun point, the U.N.-supervised elections on May 10, 1948, to set up the Syngman Rhee regime. And the world has seen many a U.N.-supervised "election" in South Korea since then.

The deceptive nature of U.N.-supervised "elections" was thoroughly revealed in the March 15 (1960) presidential elections. Fascist terror ruled the whole land, yet it could not stop the people. The people rose up in the April popular uprising and threw overboard Syngman Rhee. It gave the world another chance to see what these U.N.-supervised "elections" really were.

The Pak Jung Hi clique of South Korea oppose the peaceful unification of Korea on the democratic basis by the Korean people tolerating no outside interference. Instead, they want "unification through U.N.-supervised elections". In short, Pak and his followers, suppressing the earnest wish of the people for unification, are working like mad to perpetuate the country's division and occupy North Korea under the wing of U.S. imperialism.

Under the conditions in which U.S. imperialism, the real ruler of South Korea, and the successive puppet regimes oppose unification, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has taken, and is taking, every step for creating a favourable condition to this end. Time and again it proposed to the South Korean authorities that the U.S. army be withdrawn from South Korea, and the North and South conclude a peace agreement (declaring that they would not use force against other side) and reduce the armed forces of each side to 100,000 or less. These moves will lead to lessening the tension between the North and the South and create an atmosphere favourable for the country's unification.

There is no doubt that the realization of this proposal will create an atmosphere of trust between North and South Korea and open a very favourable, new phase in the way to peaceful unification.

In view of little possibilities of North-South elections at the present, the Government of D.P.R.K. put forth a series of measures (a sort of transitory ones) for settling the burning problems of the nation, which will work eventually for unification.

One of such measures is a North-South Confederation.

It foresees, while retaining, for the time being, the present political systems in North and South, a supreme national committee composed of representatives of both governments of North and South which would mainly regulate economic and cultural developments of North and South Korea in a uniform manner.

There is no doubt that the establishment of such a Confederation will promote mutual understanding and create an atmosphere for national unity between the North and the South, opening a very favourable phase in the country's peaceful unification.

However, if the South Korean authorities cannot agree to Confederation, our Government proposes, economic and cultural exchanges between the North and the South should be realized, independent of political problems.

North-South economic and cultural exchanges will make it possible to link the industry of North Korea with agriculture of South Korea. This will help the rehabilitation of the devastated South Korean economy and the stabilization of the deteriorated life of the South Korean people. But the South Korean authorities, on the instructions of Washington, are opposing all these proposals.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has proposed travel and postal service between the two parts of the land. It must be pointed out such proposals are more urgent in the light of the fact that for the past twenty-odd years parents and children, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, friends and relatives, who have been separated from each other in north and south, have been unable even to write each other.

All the proposals presented by the Government of D.P.R.K. on unification are in full accord not only with the interests of the entire Korean people but also with the cause of peace in the Far East and the world.

However, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet authorities have turned down all these just and realistic proposals.

Pak Jung Hi of South Korea, paying little attention to the question of unification—the question of life and death for the nation—is set for division of the country. "I shall be always a faithful friend of the Stars and Stripes in Asia." These are Pak Jung Hi's words.

The Pak Jung Hi clique, bowing to wish of Washington, are inviting again Japanese militarism to South Korea to lay a fresh obstacle in the way of Korea's unification. Still worse. They are sending South Korean troops to South Vietnam to fight the U.S. dirty war of aggression against the Vietnamese people.

It is quite obvious that Korea's unification has not yet been realized because of the U.S. imperialists who are bent on turning South Korea into their colony and military base and the South Korean puppets, the faithful followers of U.S. aggression.

In order to attain the peaceful unification of the country at an early date, to begin with, the U.S. army should be made to withdraw from South Korea.

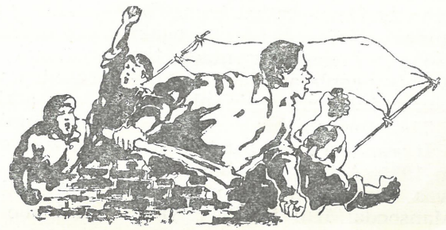
U.S. occupation of South Korea is the root and cause of all misfortunes and hardships the South Korean people are undergoing today.

Unless the root cause is removed can there be no peaceful unification of Korea.

Korea will be unified only when the U.S. army which is protecting the South Korean puppet regime is driven out from South Korea.

Through the bitter experience of the past 20 years, the South Korean people have come to know clearly what U.S. imperialism stands for.

All U.S. deception and oppression never can fool and subdue the South Korean people. And the Korean people will certainly drive out U.S. imperialism from South Korea and unify the country.



Dr. Won Hong Koo and wife pleasantly come to know from the message that the sender of the bird was no other than their son

A BIRD FLIES ACROSS THE DEMARCATION LINE

SOME time ago, a bird was caught in Pyongyang. It is a sturnia sturnina (pallas), a common bird in North Korea. But there was something peculiar about this bird... When everything was clarified, it was established that the bird had come from South Korea flying over the Demarcation Line. The story of this bird once again brought home how much the Korean people are suffering because of the country's split.

The story is this.

It was one early summer day in 1965. A bird wearing a ring was caught in the woods of Mansoodai Hill in Pyongyang. Because of the ring the bird was sent to the Biology Research Institute under the Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Won Hong Koo of the Institute, an ornithologist, had a good look at the ring which the bird wore. It was a ring that world ornithologists use in studying migratory courses and life of birds. There is an international agreement that any country where a bird wearing such a ring is caught should communicate it to the appropriate organ of the country from where the bird is released.

And the ring the bird wore had the following inscription: "Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Japan C. 7655." But Dr. Won Hong Koo was rather puzzled. From the ring it was obvious that the bird was released in Japan; but up to now, it has been believed the sturnia sturnina inhabited only Korea.

Anyway Dr. Won informed the Tokyo Asian Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation of the recovery of the bird in Pyongyang, thinking that if such a bird lived in Japan, it was something new.

In due course an answer came from the Asian branch.

The brief note informed him that, although the ring was of Japan-make, the actual sender of the bird was Dr. Won Byung Oh of the Seoul Forestry Experimental Station and that the bird was released on June 7, 1963. The communication was a routine one to be expected on such occasions. Yet Dr. Won Hong Koo could not help being surprised. Because the name "Won Byung Oh," listed as the sender, was his own son's name.

As for his son, he studied in Seoul before liberation. But because of the demarcation line created by the landing in South Korea of the U.S. army after liberation, he had to remain in South Korea. The division of the country has separated him from the family. Ever since then, there has been no way of communicating to each other.

Mrs. Won was greatly moved at the news that the bird had been released by their boy.

"The birds can fly between North and South," she said between tears, "but people cannot see each other!"

From olden times, it has been customary in any land that children who are away come home when there is some important event in the family. At least they write home. But, because of the division of the country caused by U.S. occupation of South Korea, the Korean people, far from visiting each other, have not been able to even write to each other for more than 20 years.

Tears came into the eyes of Dr. Won Hong Koo who had been troubled because he had heard nothing from his son for many years.

Later Dr. Won came to read in a bulletin of the International Council for Bird Preservation an article written by Dr. Won Byung Oh, his son, a South Korean biologist, on white-naped cranes.

The article read in part:

"...When I was a boy, I saw flocks of two to three hundreds of white-naped cranes in Kangsu County, South Pyungan Province (near Pyongyang). But, nowadays, there has been little movement of these birds in winter..."

Reading this passage, Dr. Won Hong Koo recalled the old days when he used to take a stroll with his son in the fields in Kangsu County (a small area in the western part of North Korea). The boy studied birds under his father's guidance from his early days and now he is an ornithologist.

Dr. Won, senior thought. His son must be 39 years old this year. Then his thoughts ran to the question of the movement of the white-naped crane that his son had dealt with in the article. Early in November every year, white-naped cranes come to the plain areas on the western coast of North Korea.

If such data are made available to both ornithologists of the North and South, it would be of much help to them. A letter or even a telephone call would have been enough.

However, the U.S. imperialists are dead set against any contact and travel, even letters are barred between North and South.

Materials on scientific studies are being exchanged between the scientists of all lands, yet this cannot be done between north and south of Korea—of one land!

That is why Dr. Won Hong Koo could not finish his study on the sturnia sturnina. About the distribution of the sturnia sturnina in Korea, Dr. Won wrote in one of his articles that it inhabited North Hamgyung Province and North and South Pyungan Provinces in North Korea. On this basis, the academic world named the bird "sturnia sturnina of North Korea." However, the bird released by his son Won Byung Oh in Seoul, cast a new light on this matter. The particular bird not only inhabits North Korea but also South Korea.

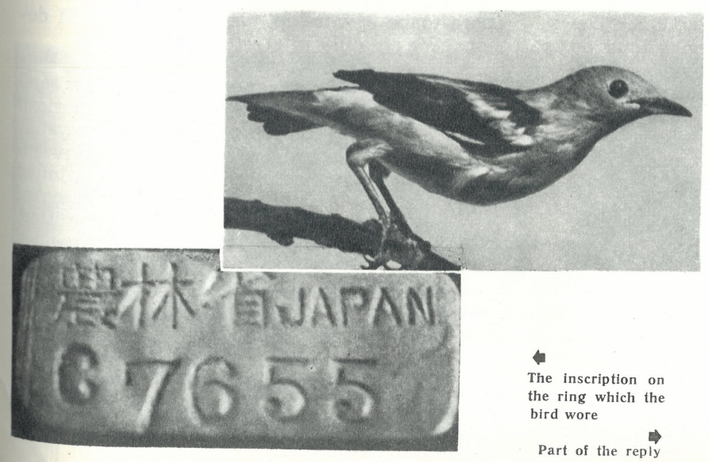
The artificial barrier that has divided the country into north and south has prevented not only ornithologists but also many other scientists in north and south from completing their studies.

On the day when Dr. Won obtained the information for the first time in twenty years about their son through a bird, his wife could not fall into sleep!

There are so many mothers who, like her, cannot sleep to think of their children in the South.

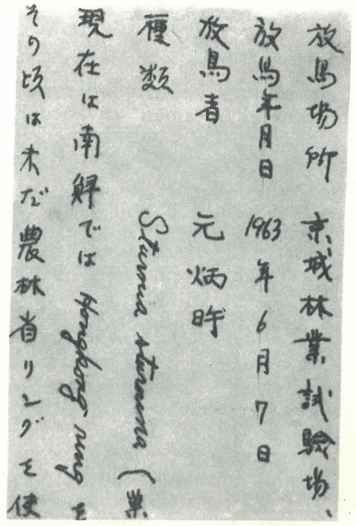
Today the entire Korean people are aspiring after the unification of the country. They never cease even for a moment their struggle to drive out the American imperialists from South Korea, who stand in their way, and open the gate to unification.

North Korean native sturnia sturnina (pallas) which flew into North Korea across the Military Demarcation Line



The inscription on the ring which the bird wore

Part of the reply



The people of Pyongyang sent the U.S. pirate ship "General Sherman" to the bottom of the Daidong River (painting)

THE MISERABLE END OF THE AGGRESSOR

A century has elapsed since the U.S.S. "General Sherman" invaded Korea, a land on which the U.S. had long its eye for the rich natural resources and strategic importance. And the past century has been a history of the rise and fall of American imperialism. The United States which has been fattened on aggression and conquest is rushing headlong toward the final doom.

AN INTRUDER ON THE DAIDONG RIVER

A century ago, in mid-August 1866, an armed vessel appeared on the Daidong River where only cargo and fishing boats were to be seen.

It was an American schooner called "General Sherman", its captain being Preston, who told our garrisons defending the mouth of the Daidong River: "Though our ship appears to be a warship, we entertain no ill designs. We are only interested in trade."

At that time, however, trade with the United States was strictly prohibited by law, and the Korean court sent officials to the American ship demanding the immediate withdrawal.

Yet giving no heed to the Korean Government's requests, the American vessel continued to sail up the Daidong River. Many cases of outrages, firing and plunder, were committed. On top of it, when local officials demanded the immediate withdrawal the Americans demanded gold, silver, ginseng, and 1,000 suk of rice (1 suk equals 150 kg).

Enraged by this, our people and troops started to hit back at the invaders.

The atrocities of U.S. pirates became all the more intensified. They fired at random on all cargo boats on the Daidong River, killing and wounding 13 people.

On September 2, the people adopted a new tactics, a fire attack, to burn down the "General Sherman". Together with its crew the pirate ship burned and went down to the bottom of the Daidong River. Such was the end of the U.S. ship "General Sherman" which had ravaged many parts of Asia since 1840.

Now the two guns captured from the "General Sherman" are preserved at the Museum of Korean History and the Museum of Korean Revolution.

The nineteenth century U.S. was marked with rising and expanding capitalism.

The Americans almost exterminated the Indians, the original inhabitants of the continent; they hunted a great number of Negroes in Africa to make them slaves of the capitalists of the Northern States and big plantation-owners of the Southern States. And many wars of aggression waged against other countries enriched the American capitalists.

The intrusion of the "General Sherman" into Korea was one of the aggressive acts committed by American capitalism.

Having learned of the shameful end of the "General Sherman," the United States dispatched the men-of-war "Wachusett" and "Shenandoah" allegedly for tracing the "General Sherman". However, each time the United States failed.

A PRELUDE TO RUIN

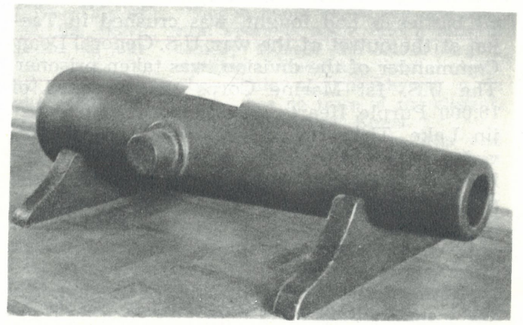
On June 18, 1950, some 80 years after the General Sherman incident, John Foster Dulles, then an adviser to the U.S. Department of State, came to South Korea and inspected the areas along the 38th parallel accompanied by American military advisers and high-ranking officers of the puppet Syngman Rhee army.

Instigating Syngman Rhee to start the Korean war on June 25, 1950, Dulles said: "Start action against the North accompanied by a counter-propaganda that the North has invaded the South first... If you can but hold out for two weeks, everything will go on smoothly, because during this period the United States, by accusing North Korea of attacking South Korea, will compel the United Nations to take action in whose name land, naval, and air forces would be mobilized."

However, they could not hold out even a week. And the United States threw its ground, naval, and air forces into the Korean war.

Washington sent a parade of bellicose U.S. generals, such as, MacArthur, Ridgway, Van Fleet, Clark, and others to the Korean front. Then there were many attacks—Christmas offensive, summer offensive, autumn offensive, new offensive, bacteriological warfare and the scorched-earth operations. But none saved them. On the contrary, it was the United States that sustained one crushing defeat after another in Korea.

After he signed the Armistice Agreement on July 27, 1953, Mark Clark, U.S. general and the commander of the U.N. forces, lamented:



A gun captured from the "General Sherman"

U.S. and its mercenary soldiers taken prisoner during the war

The end of the aggressors

"In carrying out the instructions of my government, I gained the unenviable distinction of being the first United States Army commander in history to sign an armistice without victory."

Marshall, the former U.S. Secretary of State, confessed that the myth was shattered and the United States was not so strong after all as they had believed.

Then why did the U.S. lose the war?

Was it because they had old weapons? No! As a matter of fact, in the Korean war Washington used all kinds of modern weapons. Was it because then they were short of man power? The answer is no either. The self-styled "mightiest" U.S. threw into the war one-third of its army, one-fifth of its air force, and main part of its navy in addition to the puppet Syngman Rhee army and armies of its 15 satellite countries. Altogether, the enemy had more than 2 million men. However, in the first six months after the war was launched, more than 10 best U.S. divisions were smashed. The First U.S. Cavalry Division was defeated in the war; and the U.S. 24th Division, which had boasted of a history of victory of 100 years in all battles it had fought, was crushed in Taejon at the outset of the war. U.S. General Dean, Commander of the division, was taken prisoner. The U.S. 1st Marine Corps that bragged of 18,000 Purple Hearts was wiped out on Jangjin Lake. Then the "invincible" U.S. 2nd Division that made the first landings on the Normandie during World War II was destroyed north of the Chungchun River.

As seen above, the "crack divisions" of the U.S. Army were completely crushed in the Korean war.

At the Patriotic War of Liberation Memorial the visitor will see the miserable-looking Stars and Stripes, wrecked U.S. airplanes, tanks, guns, and others. The U.S. defeat in Korea is a prelude to Washington's collapse.

American aggressors hit by the South Vietnam Liberation Army

CONTINENT BELCHING FIRE

It is 13 years since the gun-fire ceased in Korea. Many foreigners who were in North Korea said about new Pyongyang that it is "a city of flowers," "a city lined up with modern houses", and "a modern city with broad, clean streets."

The United States happily crowed that North Korea would not be able to rise up again even if it took 100 years. However, new cities and villages have risen up on the war debris. Washington miscalculated. The Korean people once again dealt a heavy brow to the arrogant United States.

The South Korean people's struggle has shaken U.S. colonial rule to its very foundations. They have waged the anti-U.S., national salvation struggle since the U.S. occupation of South Korea. They overthrew the puppet Syngman Rhee regime in April 1960.

"Let's go to the north, come down to the south! We'll meet at Panmunjom!" and "Unification is the only way to life!" were their warcries.

Washington fearful of Korea's reunification instigated Pak Jung Hi and his ilk to stage a military coup. However, even after that, the South Korean people are fighting as resolutely as ever against the U.S. imperialists and their puppet clique.

On June 3, 1964, in Seoul and 42 areas more than 310,000 students of 33 colleges and 173 middle and higher schools as well as over 20,000 citizens fought bravely against outside interference and the Pak Jung Hi regime.

The angry youths and students and people shouted: "The rotten Pak regime must go!" "We're sick of U.S. hypocricy."

No bestial U.S.-Pak suppression can quench the surging flames of the South Korean people's struggle.

Today U.S. colonial rule in South Korea is as dangerous as sleeping on a volcano.

U.S. imperialism, as in Korea, is wrapped in the flames of strong resistance everywhere in the world it has stretched its aggressive talons.

The U.S. force is melting away in South Vietnam, too, where it had many plans; the Tayler-Staley plan, McNamara plan, strategic hamlet plan, offensive and defensive operations, operation flying eagle, amphibian operation, etc. All failed.

U.S. imperialism is also being crushed in Laos and Cambodia.

The flames of struggle flared up by Cuba in the "backyard" of the U.S. are now sweeping the lands of Venezuela, Peru, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic.

Asia, Africa, and Latin America—indeed the whole world is fighting against U.S. imperialism. And the United States is going headlong towards ruin.

"Walker Hill"

On a hillock in the eastern suburbs of Seoul, South Korea, is an amusement centre, and on its main entrance is hanging a sign which reads: "Keep off Koreans not accompanied by U.N. soldiers."

It is an open secret that the U.N. army in South Korea is another name for the U.S. occupation forces.

The amusement centre is what they call the "Walker Hill." The Pak Jung Hi clique of South Korea spent five million dollars to build it. The project was under the direct command of Kim Jong Pil, the No. 2 man of the ruling party of South Korea. The whole layout is after ill-famed houses and casinos in Reno and Las Vegas. Here the jarring tunes of American jazz shriek at all hours, young girls are made to be shameless, all bloodshot eyes are focussed on the green table. This is a land, as a South Korean paper put it, "so foreign to the tortured land of South Korea." It is a little "America" and a showcase of the "American way of life" and "culture" thousands of miles away from real America.

As the sign on the gate shows, the centre is an "establishment" for "Americans Only." And Pak Jung Hi and his niece's husband Kim Jong Pil squandered the national treasury to build it!

The world knows that Pak Jung Hi and his followers owe their power to Washington. The coup that put Pak in the presidency was stagemanaged by Washington. And Pak wanted to show his loyalty to his master. So he and his men built the "American Only" amusement center in the heart of South Korea. To name the place Walker was not accidental. Walker was the commander of the U.S. 8th army, who died a "glorious" death in the Korean war.

At present, Pak Jung Hi has put the facilities at the disposal of the American soldiers who are in South Vietnam.

The place which was built with the money the South Korean puppet clique extorted from the people is the scene of the never-ending bacchanalia of the U.S. troops—the U.S. troops that have brought unspeakable sufferings and misfortunes on the South Korean people. It is also a gay place for the aggressors who are committing every crime in South Vietnam!

In the evening when the illumination floods the "Walker Hill", the abode of demons, the innumerable poverty-stricken inhabitants in the slum areas around the hill are groaning, for they cannot keep the wolf from the door.

A few minutes' walk along the Han River from the "Walker Hill" will bring one to Ryongsan Railway Station. There is an air-raid shelter in front of it, which had been built by the Japanese during World War II. The air-raid shelter has been the home for many during the past twenty-odd years. At present it is the home of 74 families, 302 people!

According to South Korean publications, 536,000,000 won (South Korean currency) was spent for the construction of the "Walker Hill". If that much money was spent for housing construction, no less than 18,600 flats can be built, and more than 30,000 tons of flour can be bought for those who are starving.

However, the Pak Jung Hi gang does not pay the slightest attention to the people's plight. On the contrary, they are desperately working to squeeze the people more to build more amusement centres like the "Walker Hill" for U.S. soldiers.

Whole South Korea is denouncing the "Walker Hill" as "an amusement centre in the country of poverty" and condemns the Pak Jung Hi clique for their traitorous act.

Korean Music Mutilated

A classical opera "A Tale of Choonhyang" is one of the time-honoured, popular classics of our country.

The opera is based on a love story between two young people, an aristocrat and a girl of humble birth, in the feudal society, who carry their love to a happy ending in defiance of all feudal conventions and taboos.

Their path was full of twists and turns.

A bitter day has come to Choonhyang. She has to say goodbye to her sweetheart Doryung, the son of the county head, who is going to Seoul following his father, who has been promoted to an important post in the capital.

In the meantime a new, vicious county head comes. Enchanted by Choonhyang's beauty, he orders her to wait on him. But Choonhyang refuses. The enraged official throws her into jail, and puts her to tortures. Yet, nothing can break her will. Only it intensifies Choonhyang's love for Doryung. In the end, the licentious county head plots to kill her.

All her sufferings happily end with the return of her long-awaited Doryung, now a secret royal inspector. (Doryung studied diligently in Seoul and passed the government examinations.) The county head is punished duly. The story ends with a dramatic climax with the happy reunion of Choonhyang and Doryung.

"A Tale of Choonhyang", a shining example of Korea's classical novels, was also adapted for opera, and it has been a Korean people's favourite for centuries. Many foreigners who heard the opera put it beside Beethoven's *Fidelio*.

But in South Korea the fine classical opera is made into a musical comedy to meet the taste of the gum chewing American soldier boys. The "Tale of Choonhyang a la U.S.A." has no trace of the elegant, graceful music of Korea.

The comedy in two acts and eight scenes with a prelude and an epilogue is arranged by an American missionary in Seoul. And the story is rewritten to give a real touch of America—Choonghyang is a prostitute and Doryung is a gang boss! And from beginning to end, it is a jarring sound of American jazz.

Such is the lot of Korea's national music in South Korea. Some time ago a South Korean art troupe made a tour of America and Europe. It was led by an American named Hayman. What kind of program they had? Here are some paper comments. The *Chicago Tribune* wrote to say that it was hard to feel "Korean" from their presentation. Then a West German paper said that Korean music was damaged by western music, and there was nothing in the program representing Korea's own sentiments and feelings.

Under the encouragement of the U.S. State Department American musicians in South Korea are working hard to remake Korea's classical and folk music into jazz. It is carried out under Washington's policy of ideological and cultural invasion of South Korea. That is why all the patriotic South Korean musicians are voicing against the penetration of jazz in the field of the national music and fighting for inheriting Korea's musical heritage and developing it further.

The Imjin Patriotic War

IT was in 1392 that a new dynasty—Li Dynasty—appeared in Korea. And the next 200 years were relatively peaceful, and, accordingly economy and culture made rapid progress. Yet, on the other hand, social contradictions became more acute.

Vanity and indolence ruled the court, and the rulers scrambled for power. All these frictions and feuds sprang from feudal land ownership.

In its early days, the Li dynasty put all the land under the state control and collected tax. At the same time, some aristocrats and officials were enfeoffed with land, from which they were authorized to collect taxes from the peasants. However, with the passage of time the number of aristocrats increased, which meant a great increase in their land holdings. On top of it, the lords began to encroach upon the land held by the king, reducing the tax flowing into the court.

As a result, the royal treasury dwindled, and there was little land to invest with the newly appointed officials.

All this resulted in the worsening strife among the ruling circles; they took away others' land and estate... The strife eventually brought about factions, now the struggle gained a new dimension.

Society as a whole was in a chaotic situation, laws becoming invalid and the nation's defence greatly weakened.

In those days, in Japan across the sea, Hideyoshi Toyotomi conquered war lords and brought whole Japan under his sway. And he harboured a plan to attack the Korean peninsula.

In the meantime, some members of the Korean court were fully aware of the dangerous ambition of the new Japanese ruler and advocated a strong national defence. Even there were some who drew up concrete plans for defence. Admiral Li Soon Shin was one of them. But, the court was not in a mood to take heed to such wise counsels. On the contrary, it punished those who called for strong national defence, charging them with an offense of disturbing the peace.

Sure enough in April, 1592, Hideyoshi sent a large army 200,000 strong to invade Korea. First landings were made in Pusan. The Japanese men were well trained in war because they had gone through a long period—over one hundred years—of wars. They were crack troops; on top of it, they were armed with guns, which came to Japan from Europe. And their numerical strength and powerful weapons were effective.

In Pusan and in nearby Tongrai, the people put up fierce battles. But they could not stop the invading hordes.

The Japanese invaders continued their northward advance and reached Seoul. Anticipating the Japanese arrival, the king and followers fled to north. So, with little effort the enemy occupied Seoul, where they regrouped.

From Seoul the invaders kept pushing northward, one force going in the northeastern direction and the main force rushing towards Pyongyang.

Inhabitants of Pyongyang and its neighbourhood took up arms to defend their country from the on-coming enemy. At last, Hideyoshi's men were checked there by the people's heroic resistance.

At the first stage of the war the situation was favourable for the enemy, but soon the tide changed.

The armed forces of Korea were soon regrouped and reorganized to deal one heavy blow after another at the enemy everywhere, on the sea and ground. Now the enemy were checked and dislodged from their occupied areas, fortresses were retaken, and the enemy were wiped out everywhere. Korea's navy led by Admiral Li Soon Shin, a patriotic commander of Korea, piled up victories against the enemy on the South Sea, which was of decisive importance in turning the war tables.

Anticipating the possible invasion of the Japanese, Admiral Li Soon Shin had stepped up the training of his men, improved their equipment, and stored enough provisions. As soon as he was informed of the Japanese attack and their northward march, he immediately set out his men. In the first battle his fleet destroyed 44 enemy ships, then 121 enemy ships in another battle on the sea off Sachun. In the second encounter with the enemy's armada they destroyed 72 enemy vessels and on the sea off Hansan-do island sank the remaining 59 enemy ships. The Hansan-do Battle occupies a shining page in the naval history of our country. Thus, Admiral Li Soon Shin and his men established immortal exploits in the war.

In particular, Admiral Li Soon Shin-designed iron-clad ships, shaped like the tortoise, played a decisive role against the Japanese armada. (Long before the iron clad ships had been known in Korea.)

Our fleets held the initiative on the sea and frustrated the enemy's tactics of "sea and ground war".

It was the Japanese plan. The foot-soldiers would advance as far as Pyongyang, who would be supplied and reinforced by the sea. From Pyongyang, Hideyoshi figured, his men would ravage whole Korea before advancing to China. But the defeat his navy suffered on the South Sea frustrated his plan.

Around this time, everywhere in the enemy occupied areas throughout Korea, the people began to rise up to meet the challenge of the enemy. The people voluntarily organized armed forces and fought the enemy heroically. Peasants were the core of the people's armed forces; even monks took arms and joined in the battle to the defence of the country. As days went by all these Volunteer units in various parts were united or allied into strong forces and waged large-scale operations. Particularly famous were Kwak Jai Oo and his volunteers in the southeastern part of Korea, Sage Susan and his army of monks in the northwestern part of Korea, and Samyung-dang, his disciple, who coming from Mt. Keumkang and commanding the monk army and the people's Volunteers fought valiantly.

The patriotic struggle of the people liberated many areas from the enemy's occupation, and eventually the government began to function normally. The regular troops were reorganized and their activities became intensified.

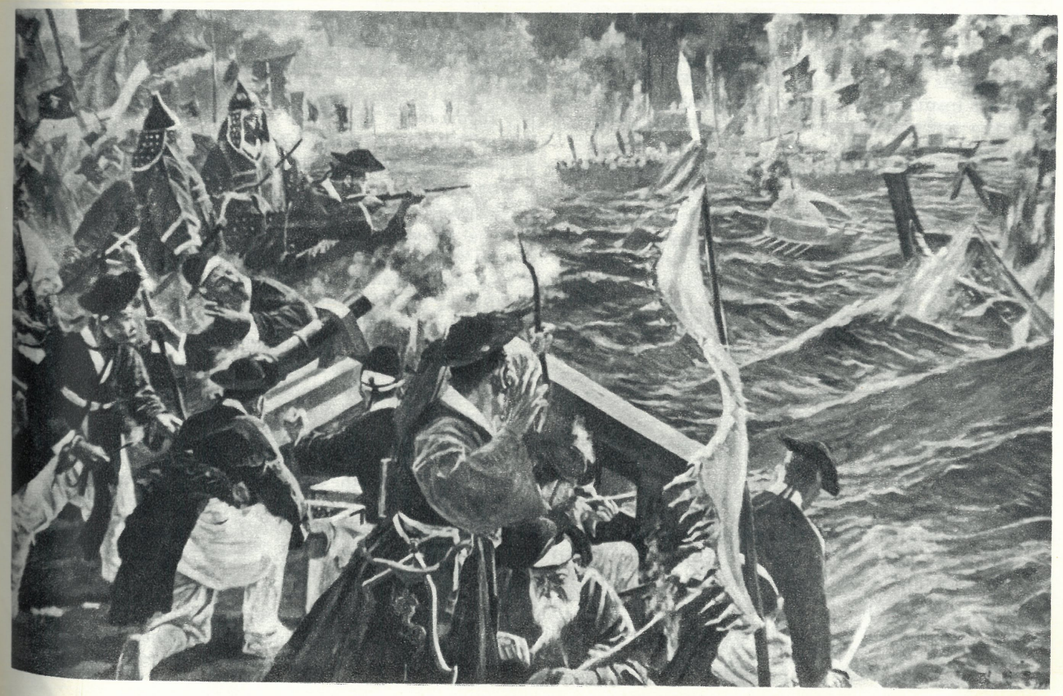
As the strength of our troops increased, one enemy's plan after another was smashed. After August 1592 the number of enemy soldiers fleeing southwards in face of Korea's troops and Volunteer units grew rapidly.

At last, in January 1593 our troops launched a general offensive. The Pyongyang Walls, the key position of the enemy, were liberated, and our forces advanced southwards to retake Seoul.

By July 1593 the enemy were driven into a small area on the southern coast. During this period fierce battles were fought in Yunan Walls, Hyangjoo mountain fortress, and Jinjoo Walls, which all ended in victory for the Korean people.

Thus the first invasion by the Japanese troops ended in a complete failure. But the Japanese invaders were reluctant to give up

The battle on the sea off Hansan Island (painting). In this battle a Korean fleet commanded by Admiral Li Soon Shin, an outstanding military strategist of Korea, defeated the numerically superior Japanese fleet and won a great victory



their ill designs on Korea. They hanging on in some areas on the southern coast, proposed for "peace" negotiations. They wanted to gain time for preparations for a new aggression.

In January 1597, Hideyoshi dispatched a greater force and hundreds of ships to attack Korea for the second time. In view of the bitter experience that they had in their first invasion, the enemy figured they had to hit Korea's naval force first. By this time, however, the feudal rulers of Korea who had fallen into a trap by the enemy had removed Admiral Li Soon Shin from his post and, instead, appointed an incompetent man in his place.

Therefore, Korea's navy suffered a great loss in the battle against the enemy. The enemy launched a general attack both on the land and sea.

However, this time, too, the Japanese aggressive army had to reckon with the powerful counter-attack of our forces. Our ground force made a surprise attack on the main units of the enemy's ground force in Choongchung Province to wipe out them. Now the routed enemy, having lost a fighting spirit, began to take to flight southward.

Meanwhile, the feudal court recalled Admiral Li Soon Shin and made him commander of the naval force and reinforced the naval strength. Admiral Li rebuilt the naval force with 12 battle ships and 120 men.

An enemy armada of more than 300 ships made an attack on our naval force only to be frustrated by our men. Over 30 enemy ships and thousands of the enemy soldiers were killed or wounded by the superb tactics of Korea's navy. Thus the enemy's naval force was completely immobilized. On the ground too, the enemy were driven back to a small area on the southern coast.

The enemy, encircled by our ground and naval forces, began to retreat under the cover of over 500 warships. And our fleet launched a large-scale attack on the enemy in November 1598, sending more than 10,000 enemy soldiers to the bottom of the sea.

The war continued for seven years. The war was marked with cowardice and impotence of the ruling circles in contrast to heroism and patriotism of the people whose valiant struggle repulsed the invaders and defended the land.

The people exhibiting bravery and self-sacrificing spirit fought the well-armed enemy. In the course of the war, the people became well versed in various tactics and made new weapons. The "Kubooksun" (iron ship shaped like the tortoise) built by Admiral Li Soon Shin was one of them. Then, there was a powerful bomb which the Koreans used against the enemy in Kyungjoo. The Koreans also had a better rifle than the enemy's.... All these showed highly developed science, technology, and culture in Korea of those days.

The Narcotic Centre

THE world still remembers well. It was about 400 years ago that ships of Portugal and other Western countries spread narcotics to all parts of the world. And from the mid-eighteenth century, the opium trade flourished with the British East India Company as the centre. Opium flowed into many regions to attack innumerable people. There were "narcotic centres" in many ports and cities of the world.

However, today, in the latter half of the twentieth century, new "narcotic centres" are in many parts of the world—the new centres are offices of the U.S. Information Service. According to the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Information Service is allegedly for enlightenment, culture and prompt report of news of the rapidly changing world.

However, their "enlightenment" and "culture" are only the shell for ideological and cultural aggression on other countries.

Now the U.S. Information Service Offices in different countries own a great number of radio stations and movie houses. And it is not unusual for them to control the country's information medium with dollars and technical "aid".

Let us take a look at the U.S. Information Service in South Korea.

USIS in South Korea has several offices in the main cities of South Korea and feeds the "information offices" of the ministries of education and home affairs of the puppet regime of South Korea to put them under its control.

The personnel exchange program and culture and arts and publications are given high priority in its working.

Every year professional men and political and social figures are closely screened before sending them to the United States under the name of students and others. Meanwhile, they also bring a lot of Americans into South Korea who are placed in public and cultural establishments and religious organizations as "advisers", "investigation groups", etc. It is through these Americans USIS spreads the notion of "American prosperity" and "U.S.-almightiness." It is Washington's line—if it is to make the people follow the Washington's war drums, it has to make them "American-philes."

Such being the case, it is not accidental for Congress of the United States to admit that the exchange of personnel is the most effective technique in the work of USIS.

The United States Information Service in South Korea holds many film-shows, fine arts exhibitions, poster and photograph displays. Among these the film-shows play the most important role as multitudes view films.

KIM SANG KUL

That is why the U.S.-drawn up regulations on film-showing in South Korea prescribe that the South Korean authorities must see to it that the cinema-houses in South Korea should show American films more than fifty-two days out of every three months and import over 190 American films every year. Most of the American films that USIS brings into South Korea are either gang or sex films. Then there are films made to give a rosy picture of "U.S. prosperity" and culture. It goes without saying that these American films praise violence and decadence in an attempt to foster among the population sensualism, misanthropy, and pessimism. In other words, they are working to paralyse the wholesome spiritual world of the people and divert the people's attention from urgent social problems.

Newspapers, magazines, books, and others are also an important vehicle of U.S. for its ideological, cultural infiltration on South Korea.

Millions and millions of copies of American books, magazines, picture-books, comics are literally flooding South Korea, and they are distributed through various channels. Once "Life", a popular American weekly, carried a picture of two anthropoid apes, one knocking off the other by crashing the latter's skull with a stone in a wilderness. It is obvious what it meant. The creed of American freedom—the law of the jungle. And it must be added that the "Life" was no exception, all other publications are in the same vein. Now this notion is extended to the "justification" of war.

Another point the American publications are expounding is existentialism. Albert Camus, one of the chieftains of existentialism, said: "There is only one thing that is really important. It is suicide. Whether life is worth to live or not—this will answer the fundamental question of philosophy ..." Pursuing faithfully this line, USIS is directing special efforts to circulating such books and the ideas of hatred for life, nihilism, restlessness, solitude, and death. It goes without saying that all these will rush the South Korean society to extreme ruin and corruption and degeneration. These notions are prostituting the people's minds.

The U.S. Information Service, a new type of narcotic centre, is also concentrating much effort on stimulating base animal instincts so as to praise ideological and moral degradation and corruption. Corruption and degeneration are the inherent features of the present American society. Only they are upheld all the more by the rulers of Washington, who hope to beautify somehow the ugly society.

To this end, the Washington rulers scheme to extend Freud's sex notions and psycho-analysis to all phases of society, first of all, to literature and sociology. Today even the law of social development is made part of this notions.

Everywhere the corrupted "American way of life" is preached, and there exists a sex anarchy, and the rate of crimes and immorality is rising.

Meanwhile, the U.S. propaganda medium is going on at full blast. Under USIS there are three radio stations in South Korea, "Voice of America", "Voice of Freedom", "U.N. Command Radio" in addition to three telecast stations. And all the other radio stations, government-run or otherwise, are in reality operated by U.S. advisers with funds provided by U.S. aid. "Keep lying, until the people believe you" was Goebbel's dictum. And this is the gospel of Washington's propagandists. They are shamelessly lying in their unsavory anti-communist campaign while attempting to Americanize the people through radio and television.

In days gone by, the colonialists peddled opium in a clandestine way to pile up huge profits and poison people, and ultimately to swallow up other countries. And today the Washington rulers, the new colonialists, are working hard to poison the people with reactionary ideologies and emasculate them spiritually. They hope the people cannot and do not see the contradictions of the society and the truth. The U.S. rulers like it to have that people do not disturb the peace and quiet of the handful of the "sacred families" of the U.S. who indulge in idleness, luxury, and dissoluteness. And it is also their hope to chain the peoples of different countries to U.S. rule. And the U.S. administration is busy setting up various organizations for ideological and cultural aggression and mobilizing every means to open "ideological markets". The American millionaires are generously supplying funds for such projects.

The United States Information Service in South Korea is one of the establishments for ideological and cultural aggression, and it is assuming the offensive against the progressive ideology and culture in South Korea. To this end, every means is unhesitatingly used, not only through ideological and cultural means but also through various unsavory methods.

All their offensive is directed against the South Korean people's struggle to defend the nation and safeguard the dignity of their patriotic traditions and to fight for the country's unification and against the colonial plunder and outrages of U.S. imperialism. It goes without saying that U.S. troops are behind USIS in its work.

However, the ever-growing national and class contradictions, a natural consequence of the U.S. colonial rule, is awakening the South Korean people. Such being the case, USIS itself is screaming that they are thrown into an isolated position.

They may resort to every form of ideological and cultural invasion but never will U.S. imperialism paralyse the ever-growing consciousness and fighting spirit of the South Korean people.

The South Korean people who are proud of their shining patriotic traditions and ages-old cultural heritage will surely repulse the rotten ideology and culture fostered by USIS and safeguard to the last the progressive, excellent culture of their own.

Dangerous Advance

KIM YUNG KI

IT is a rule that when the imperialists set out on a new aggression they wage intensive thought control within their borders. Before he attacked his neighbour countries Hitler made his "Mein Kampf" the "bible" of nazism. Fascism was Mussolini's vehicle for ascendance to power.

Setting out on the overseas expansion, Japanese imperialism is bringing its militalism to life—the militarism which was crushed 21 years ago.

"HONOURABLE IMPERIALISM"

In his "Fairy Tales and Politics," Japanese Foreign Minister Shiina wrote:

"Since the Restoration of 1869, Japan has made her effort to free Asia from the tentacles of the Western European powers; it for its own independence administered Taiwan and annexed Korea, and worked to realize the coprosperity of five nations in Manchuria. So Japanese imperialism—if it is to be called so—is an honourable imperialism.... I want to point out that the new dawn of a new era in Asia and Africa started with the Japanese-Russian war in the sense of world history. And the same can be said of today. Whether she likes it or not, Japan must share her fate with the countries of Asia and Africa. And their liberation, independence, and co-existence and coprosperity also have to be shared by Japan."

It is to be remembered. The words of Shiina are not only his. To honour the defeated Japanese militarism is the propaganda line of the Japanese government, and all its propaganda machinery is working overtime.

The Japanese government that exercised strict supervision over textbooks, had all school books rewritten. Now the younger generation of Japan is taught that Japanese colonial rule in Korea was "beneficial" to the Koreans. The word "Pacific War" is replaced with "War of the Greater East Asia" and the war itself is put under a different light. Some five years ago already Japanese textbooks said the war was for "liberating the areas of Southeast Asia from the chains of the European and American colonialists, for setting up the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere in these areas with Japan as the leader, and for placing the resources of these regions at its disposal." Today, even the war criminal Hideki Tojo is lauded in glorifying terms in school books.

No more aggressive is the Pacific War, but a "war of liberation!" During the past few years there has been a stepped-up campaign for the "just Greater East Asia War".

Among the Japanese war criminals tried and punished is Fusao Hayashi, who is an ardent advocate of the "just Greater East Asia War". "It seemed Japan was defeated and crushed in the last ditch. But Japan achieved its aims.

"Most of the developing countries which became members of the United Nations are those that won independence after the surrender of Japan in the last World War. Let us not think that they owe their independence to Japan's efforts and its last ditch struggle. But there is little doubt that Japan's resistance—if the gentlemen of the scholastic world wish to call it aggression, it is their privilege—is assets than liabilities to the independence of these countries." Thus Hayashi maintains.

In short, revived Japanese militarism is being honoured and glorified. Several events in recent months are very elucidating. February 11—Empire Day—is re-designated as a national holiday. It means a re-advocacy of Tennoism. Then, to honour those who died in the Pacific War is a state programme. They are praised as "the brave fallen in the sacred war," "patriots," and "national heroes." The Japanese militarists do not want the people to think those were victims of an aggressive war.

Exhibitions on the "sacred war of Greater East Asia" are well co-ordinated with the programmes for building up the U.S. rocket-carrying defence corps of Japan, the revived imperial army of yesterday.

When the Japanese defence agency was engrossed in drawing up the notorious military plan "Operation Three Arrows"—a plan for attack on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and other socialist countries in Asia, a big "defence display" was held in Tokyo, which was attended by over a million, including some 800,000 school children who were ordered to make the visit. Then the public was invited to visit the sea defence corps stationed in Kobe.

All propaganda media—radio, television and others—are geared for preaching the glory of militarism with the jingoistic line of "superiority of the Japanese race." In this respect, the radio programme MAN (man, action, nationalism) is an outstanding one. It goes without saying that all those stepped-up propaganda campaigns are to fan militarism, "Japan's historic mission" among the people, and create the war atmosphere.

REISCHAUER'S NEW MAPS

Edwin O. Reischauer, U.S. Ambassador to Japan, also known as a Far Eastern expert, wrote an article for the September issue (1965) of "Chuo Koron", a leading Japanese monthly. He showed two maps of his own making.

This American "expert" has a new conception of map-making. Maps should be drawn, he contends, not on territorial areas of the countries but in accordance with sizes of population and total production, two important elements of the state life.

Reischauer goes on to say that it is unreasonable for Japan to confine herself in small islands as she does now; she needs more Lebensraum for her growing population and from the angle of her growing productive power, the two elements of the national strength.

It is quite obvious what prompted this U.S. ambassador to dream up such maps? He is playing a special role for Japan. "Japan's leadership in Asia" is a favourite expression of this American "expert" on Asian affairs. He asserts that the historic mission of Japan, the "leadership in Asia," is part and parcel of the historic task the U.S. is assuming in the world, "the world leadership."

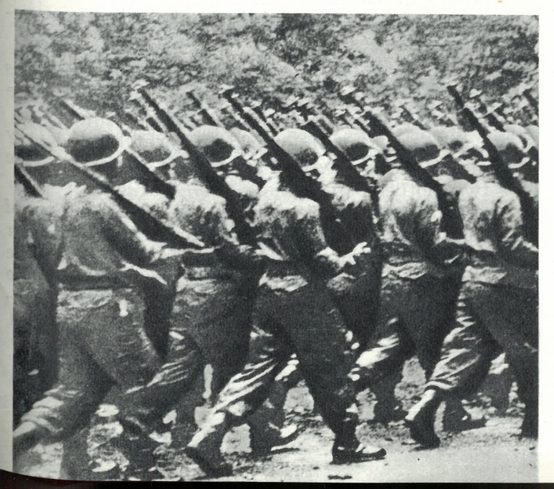
Such notion comes from the "superiority of the Japanese nation," and it is a variety of the "Greater Asia doctrine," which the Japanese militarists invented years ago to impress their people with the "historic mission of the Japanese nation to rule Asia."

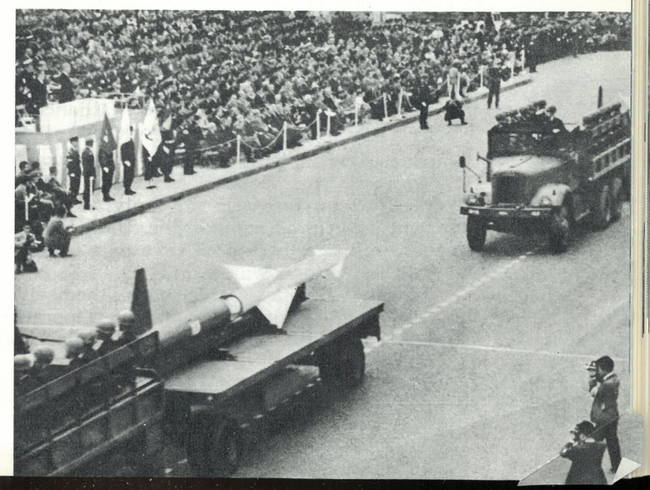
The "Greater Asia doctrine" is an expression of Japan's ambition for conquest of Asia, and an ideological foundation for the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere." Now the "doctrine" is developed into the conception of the "united states of Japan" which includes Korea, China, and some Southeast Asian countries.

All propaganda machinery in Japan is going in full blast to eulogize the "Greater East Asia War" to bring back the late Japanese militarism to life. Now the notion of Japan's leadership in Asia is played up for overseas expansion by the revived Japanese militarists. Frequent talks are held between the American and Japanese rulers on "a new stage in the development of U.S. and Japanese relations."

As for the "new stage and new era" Japanese Foreign Minister Shiina maintains: "I dare say that relations between Japan and the U.S. have developed from the first stage to a new one. In the former the U.S. helped Japan

Japanese militarists having forgotten the crushing defeat they sustained are bent on reinforcing their armed forces





in its revival and reappearance on the international arena after World War II. But at present, it is expected of Japan to co-operate with the U.S. in establishing a "new international order" and promoting the "welfare of the world, making active contributions to this end."

In other words, Washington has made Japan a shock brigade of its aggression, and now the shock brigade is fully ready and anxious to act.

Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs William Bundy made this quite clear when he said: Since long ago, the U.S. has thought Japan has definite part to perform not only in Asia, but on the world arena.... Japan is duty-bound to devote herself to the cause of building a stabilized, peaceful, and prospering Asia with her great technical capacity and experience accumulated in her own rapid modernization.

Then in Washington last year Japanese Premier Sato said: "Our country (Japan) has become, in fact, a world power; now we should undertake a responsibility becoming of such a power for the welfare of other nations."

"Japan's leadership in Asia" the U.S. and Japanese rulers clamour is the threshold of overseas expansion by the revived and rearmed Japanese militarism.

A PERFECT CO-ORDINATION

Japanese militarism has been revived and rearmed under the blessing of U.S. imperialism since the Second World War and trained into a shock brigade for the U.S. plan for world conquest. It is to be recalled that Japan once attempted with the Tokyo-Berlin-Rome axis the world conquest, but today it hand in hand with the West German revanchists is a faithful follower of the U.S. quest for the world domination. And the danger can never be minimized—the danger that the revived Japanese militarists are a shock brigade of Washington in this nuclear-bomb era.

The world should note that Tokyo has begun to put its plan into practice. In this connection, the "Seoul-Tokyo treaty" is the important first step toward the formation of the U.S.-sponsored northeast Asia military alliance for which Washington has been working so long.

Japanese participation in the dirty war of U.S. aggression in Vietnam is another point to be noted. Now Japan is not only a military base and a supply centre for U.S. But the Japanese military personnel take part in drawing up Washington's war plans.

As to the Japanese militarists themselves, they have made plans, the infamous "Operation Three Arrows" and "Operation Flying Dragon," for the attack on the socialist states and independent countries in Asia.

To be sure, they like to have these plans called "plans for training." But the world remembers how such plans worked in Tojo's surprise attack on Pearl Harbor and Hitler's invasion against the Soviet Union.

While making all military preparations, the Japanese militarists are not neglecting the economic aggression. Early in April the Japanese government called a "conference for economic development of Asia," an indication of Japan's readiness to partake fully in Washington's "Southeast Asian development plan" and to start its overseas expansion in real earnest.

It is high time for the world to sharpen its vigilance and watch every step of Japanese militarism. Japan and West Germany have been turned into U.S. bases and hotbeds of war in the East and West.

The world has witnessed the unity of action of these two shock brigades of the U.S. imperialists—Japanese militarism and West German revanchism. These war-like states have become allies under the U.S. nuclear umbrella. They trumpet aggressive thoughts within their territories.

Japan is making every effort to "justify" and "honour" the "Greater East Asia War," when the West German revanchists are working hard to glorify nazism and circulate "Mein Kampf." In both countries textbooks have been rewritten, and the Empire spirit and "Deutschland über alles" are greatly encouraged.

The war criminals, ignoring the war crime trials at Tokyo and Nuremberg, have again the sway over all domains, political, economic, cultural, and military. And there are organized campaigns to honour them—they who started the aggressive wars which brought untold disasters on all mankind.

Hitler is described as a "man who was entrusted with a mission to keep order and honour labour at home, and rally the great national power of Germany on the international arena while resolutely fighting against the communist forces."

The unity of action of Tokyo and Bonn is not accidental. Their acts are in accordance with the plans laid by the White House.

Now the whole world is watching every move of the revived aggressive forces and the two hotbeds of war.

With their united strength, the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America rallied under the banner of anti-imperialism will frustrate in every step the machinations of the two shock brigades in the East and West and vindicate the cause of national independence, freedom, and peace without fail.

Mt. Myohyang

MT. Myohyang, standing in the centre of the northern part of the Korean peninsula is one of the four famous mountains in the country.

There are numerous forests of Chinese junipers in the mountain to fill the air with a fragrant scent. The mountain with a circumference of 120 kilometres, consists of numerous peaks, the highest peak being Biro-bong towering 1,909 metres above sea level.

At its southwestern foot is found the Bohyunsa Temple which was built in 1043, a time-honoured temple, about which many heroic stories are woven. It was here that Sage Susan, a patriotic monk, raised an army of more than 5,000 monks to fight against the Hideyoshi hordes from Japan in the Imjin Patriotic War (1592-1598).

The temple along with many others in Mt. Myohyang shows the characteristics of Buddhist architecture of mediaeval Korea. In the front yard of the Bohyun-sa Temple stands a 13-storied octagonal pagoda.

Near the temple there are several new buildings, big and small, including a modern rest-home and a museum. At the rest-home more than 6,000 working people spend vacations every year at the expense of the state.

About eight kilometres' walk from the Bohyun-sa Temple will bring one to the Bupwang-bong Peak (1,400 metres). The most celebrated spot along the excursion route through thick forests, deep valleys, and the tunnel is the area where Sangwon-am Cloister is located. It is an old building of Korean architecture, standing on a sheer cliff—particularly, its truss of 12 metres long and the absence of central pillars are well known.

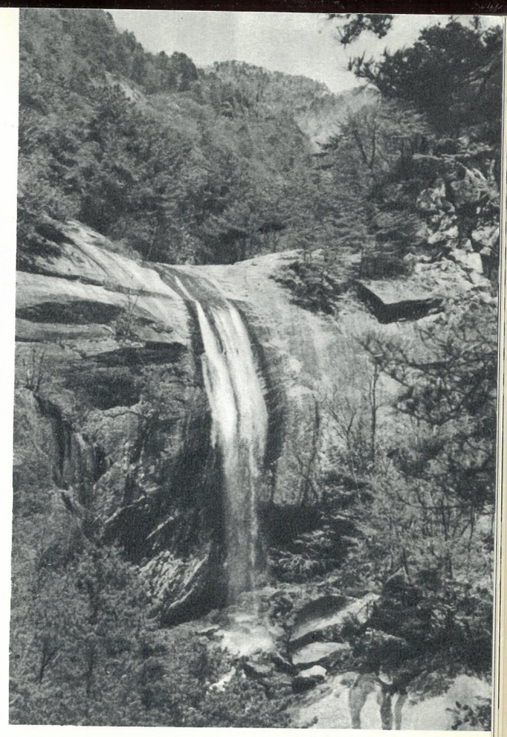
Another excursion route in the mountain covers a distance of about 20 kilometres from the Bohyun-sa Temple to Habiro-am Rock. Manpokdong valley or the valley of ten-thousand falls is the most famous place. The nine-stage fall presents a spectacular view.

From Habiro-am Rock, a new excursion route, the third one, starts. It is about a distance of 12 kilometres reaching Hyangro-bong Peak (1,599 metres). Mystery-surrounded gorges and numerous Alpine plants make Hyangro more distinct. From olden days Mt. Myohyang has been famous for its rich variety of Alpine plants. On the Hyangro-bong Peak, one will find a tree with broad leaves of 50 cm. in diametre and flowers in full bloom even under snow in the early spring. Facing the Hyangro-bong Peak stands a peak of numerous rocks, most mysteriously shaped. Some look like lions and Buddhas; others resemble workers holding hammers; still others appear like soldiers holding rifles.

From Habiro-am Rock to Biro-bong Peak is some 50 kilometres in both ways. Climbing up the beetling precipice and enjoying the sweet aroma of Chinese junipers one stands on the crown of Biro-bong Peak, the highest point in the mountain. Not a single tree is to be found, and on its northern slope, snow is found in the shade even in summer.

Another excursion route runs in the southern direction from the Bohyun-sa Temple, where one can admire numerous relics and scenic spots. Particularly, Ansim-sa Temple built in 1028 is famous. In the compound of the temple, there is a maidenhair-tree which is said to be 600 years old.

Before long Mt. Myohyang will be made a state park. At present its excursion routes are improved and vacation and sightseeing facilities are being built.



Sanjoo Falls in Mt. Hyohyang

A 13-stories octagonal pagoda in the compound of Bohyun-sa Temple

Two Worlds

FULL OF HOPES

Trolley bus conductress Kim Jung Sil

AS the bright morning sun showers over the streets, Kim Jung Shil, conductress of Bus No. 700 of the Pyongyang Trolley Bus Service, leaves home for the terminal. She looks very fresh in her new uniform, and she is cheerful as always. But this morning she feels happier than ever. Why?

Well, last night, she was awarded a letter of commendation at the rally marking the 20th birthday of the Socialist Working Youth League. Just think, a letter of commendation! And how everyone clapped when she was called out!

Her bus runs along the same route. The passengers are the familiar faces. "Good morning!" sounds more friendly this morning. Then the green-donned streets and flowers are lovelier than ever, she thought.

It is three years now since she became a conductress.

In our society where the people are masters of the country, whatever one does, it is for the good of oneself and for the prosperity of the country and the welfare of the people. And this makes everyone—whatever his chosen field may be—work devotedly for the country and society, helping each other. It was under such atmosphere she grew up and went to school.

"Only for the masses! I'll be a true guide to them!" This is how she pledged by herself. From then on she has worked hard to carry out the pledge. She always keeps her bus clean and is kind and courteous to the passengers. Particularly, she takes good care of the old and children. When strangers to Pyongyang should be on her bus and ask her something, she explains things until they understood. One day, when a grandma on board developed a stomachache. (It seemed the grandma was from out of town.) At any rate Jung Shil made the bus stop; of course, she asked other passengers if it was all right. Then, leaving the bus to the driver, she took the old woman to the nearby hospital. There is much more to be said of her. That is why the passengers call her "our conductress."

Jung Shil is also a studious girl. She feeling great pride in her work devotes most of her time to study after work. She is now studying hard for the examination for a college diploma. Already she passed some subjects including psychology with excellent marks.

Before long she will get a teacher's certificate.

Jung Shil has a keen interest in literature and is a member of the literary circle of the service. Often the circle members meet for book reviews or discussions about book they read. Regularly they are taught by the specialists in the evening. She is also good at singing and dancing, but her No.1 interest is in dramatic presentations.

At the city workers' art circle contest held last winter she presented a skit of her own "Trolley Bus Runs!" Everyone liked it.

She never misses new books or new films and plays.

In May Day this year Jung Shil with her family enjoyed the holiday at the Daisungsan Pleasure Ground. Soon she will be on a 20-day vacation at a holiday home. She said: "... In addition to wages and bonus, everyone of us has a 20-day vacation every year. In our country everyone—conductresses, scientists, political workers, managers — is equal in serving the people." And she feels the greatest joy and happiness in her work.

Jung Sil (centre) is going on her shift

Korean Weightlifters at GANEFO Tournament

Between May 20 and 24 a Weightlifting Invitation Tournament of the New Emerging Forces was held in Peking.

Champions from 12 countries of Asia, Africa, and Europe including our country competed.

Korean weightlifters made a good showing.

Pak Dong Keun was placed first in the 52 kilogramme class event with a lift-total of 290 kilogrammes. His performance improved the GANEFO record by 5 kilogrammes.

When it was announced that Pak Dong Keun had established a new record, thunderous applause shook the hall.

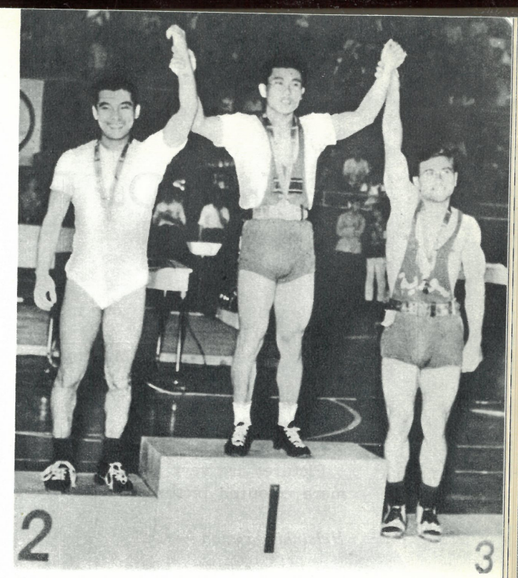
Little girls presented him with bouquets.

Our Kim Yung Soo won the third place in the 67.5 kilogramme class events which lasted 4 hours. Many world champions took part in them.

In the 75 kilogramme class event Kim Se Hyun won the second place.

And Kim Yong Il and Kim Joong Il were placed second in the 82.5 and 90 kilogramme class events respectively.

In particular Kim Se Hyun has broken the total and individual records of the GANEFO in the 75 kilogramme class events, and Kim Yong Il and Kim Joong Il also improved the records in the 82.5 and 90 kilogramme class events.



Pak Dong Keun (centre) on the honour-stand

The Korean weightlifters carried off one gold, three silver, and one bronze medals.

SOON HI IS TROUBLED

KIM Soon Hi is a conductress working for a bus company in Seoul. The father died years ago and mother has been bed-ridden. There are young brothers and sisters. She is the eldest and the support of the family. How good she felt when she found the job. Her only wish was to earn some money and buy medicines for mother and, maybe, some clothes for her younger brothers and sisters.

It was three years ago.

But, what she is earning can hardly keep herself going. She has to stay in the dormitory. Even the small wage is not paid regularly. Often pay is five or six months in arrears.

The work is a torture. Her hours are long, from early dawn to late hours at night. Only two or three hours are about all she can sleep.

When a day's work is over, she is utterly exhausted. Her whole body aches. At the beginning the company head said the girls would get an off-day in every 18 days, but not once Soon Hi was given a free day. This is not all. When the owner thinks what the girls bring in is not big enough, he searches the girls' persons. Every time Soon Hi feels angry and humiliated, but she has to pocket the insult. She needs the job! If one loses the job, there is no chance for finding one. There are millions and millions of unemployed in South Korea.

The three years on the job made Soon Hi suffer from a bad case of throat trouble in addition to stomach disorders. (40 per cent of the bus conductresses are now affected by the same troubles.) She can hardly announce what she has to say on the bus. She is gripped by fear of dismissal.

Recently the bus drivers and conductresses went on strike for higher wages and better working conditions. Among the strikers was seen Kim Soon Hi and her girl friends.

NEW RELICS UNEARTHED

Eleven articles of relics which belong to the last period of Kojosun have been excavated at the foot of Mt. Banryong in Hamheung by the staff members of the Hamheung Museum.

Among the finds are six pieces of daggers and other weapons, iron axes, and a fine-lined mirror.

The longest dagger is 32.8 centimetres. It is double-edged. And the spears are 27 centimetres long, rather long compared with those found in Korea. There are traces of the application of certain rust-proof substance to those weapons. And the mirror shows the high level of casting techniques of those days.

It is estimated that these were some 2,000 years ago.

They are valuable materials for the study of productive forces and culture of the ancient society.

From Our Readers

I should like to have your magazine "Korea Today" sent to me regularly.

Your articles "Korea's Machine Building", "Kyungrak World", "Cultures of the Three Kingdoms", and "Latest Fine Arts of Korea" were very informative and interesting.

I should like to know about animals of Korea.

Pictures are very good. It is my hope that I can see more coloured pictures on Korea's Nature.

Ilkka Helastie

Helsinki, Finland

I wish to read more on Korea's economy, social problems, and different schools, particularly colleges, students and their relations with inhabitants of the urban and rural areas.

Anna Tattegrain

Paris, France

I found articles the "Peasant and Agrarian Question under Socialism and Basic Principles in Solving It" and "He Will Be Ever Alive in Our Hearts" interesting.

I want to read about public health in the countryside, hospitals and clinics in cities and villages, and about education. Perhaps you can tell more about scientific developments in your country.

A reader

Cameroon

STAMPS of KOREA

Recently the Ministry of Communications of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued two series of new stamps, one on Korea's armed struggle against Japanese occupation of Korea and the other on Silla's potteries.

In the 1930's Korean Communists headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung started to wage a bloody armed struggle against the Japanese imperialists who had occupied Korea, and the struggle lasted fifteen years.

A set of three stamps show important battles Korea's guerrillas fought against Japanese imperialism.

The stamp on the top depicts the Battle on Chiensanfen Peak (June 30, 1937). A partisan unit under the command of Comrade Kim Il Sung engaged an enemy force of 2,500 men on Chiensanfen in the upper reaches of the Amrok River, and killed, wounded, or captured some 1,500 of them.

The stamp (middle) shows the battle of Daihongdan (May 1939).

In May 1939, the anti-Japanese partisan units directly led by Comrade Kim Il Sung crossed the Amrok River and penetrated into the Moosan district, the northern border area of our country, where they dealt a fatal blow at the enemy.

The last stamp (bottom) pictures the Battle of Tashaho (August 23-24, 1939). In this battle one of the anti-Japanese partisan units killed and wounded more than 500 enemy soldiers and captured a large amount of military goods.

Denomination: 10 *jun* each.
Size: 23×35 mm. Offset

The stamps below show the porcelain and pottery of the Silla Kingdom, one of the ancient states of Korea (early 2nd century A.D.-935).

During the Silla period the pottery making along with metal working made remarkable progress. Many works of the Silla period are still preserved.

Stamps feature a porcelain bowl (left) (7th-8th centuries A.D.), 2 *jun*; an earthenware (centre) (2nd-5th centuries), 5 *jun*; and a pottery (right) (2nd-5th centuries), 10 *jun*.

All stamps measure 24×33 mm. Offset. Monocolour.

Anything in this issue may be reprinted with due acknowledgement.

Travel Guide to KOREA

Korean International Tourist Bureau maintains business relations with more than 100 travel agencies and services of various countries of the world. It makes international travel arrangements and serve foreign tourists.

Korean International Tourist Bureau makes:

1. Contracts with tourist bureaus of other countries on the exchange of tourists;
2. Accommodations for foreign tourist parties and tourists;
3. Arrangements for Korean tourist parties and tourists to travel in foreign countries;
4. All necessary arrangements, accommodations, and reservations including train, plane, and steamer tickets and meal tickets on all international lines;
5. Necessary arrangements for securing visas, exchange of currencies, and other conveniences;
6. Arrangements for tours and excursion trips to scenic spots and places of historic interest, including providing translators and guides;
7. All the necessary travel arrangements for the tourists to continue travels to other countries from Korea.

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